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Japan

Yamamoto Comments on U.S. Agricultural Subsidies

OW1605134790 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] Mr. Osamu Ikeda of the Rengo Sangiin Floor Group asked about the government's measures to deal with the GATT's Uruguay Round [at the intepellations held at the budget committee session of the House of Councillors this morning]. In his reply, Yamamoto, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, stated his view that the reduction of domestic agricultural subsidies that the United States maintains cannot be accepted.

U.S. Firm Authorized To Sell Laminated Veneer

OW1605143590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1301 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 16 KYODO—The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries on Wednesday gave a U.S. lumber company, Trus Joist Corp., Japanese Agricultural Standard (JAS) authorization on laminated veneer lumber. Such lumber, called LVL, was until recently one of the items the United States designated as an unfair bilateral trade item under the Super 301 Clause of the 1988 Omnibus Trade Act.

Trus Joist is the first foreign company to become JAS authorized following the recent settlement of lumber trade friction between the two countries. The company is the largest U.S. lumber maker, with 12 plants in the U.S. and Canada. It has already been selling two-by-four-inch LVL in Japan through an agent as a construction material.

Combined with Wednesday's approval, an expected tariff cut for lumber in June will further boost the company's business in Japan, industry sources said. Its market share in Japan would reach as high as 20 percent from the current 10 percent, they said.

U.S. Nuclear Submarine Makes Port Call

OW1705081290 Naha NHK Television Network in Japanese 0315 MGT 17 May 90

[Text] Permit-class offensive submarine Guardfish of the United States made a port call at White Beach in Katsuren-cho this morning. Here is a report by reporter Ishikawa.

[Begin video report from helicopter] A nuclear submarine has come to Okinawa again. We have spotted Guardfish five kilometers out to sea from the coast of Tsuken Island. Guardfish is heading toward White Beach, avoiding the coral reefs. We can see nine crewmen on deck, and some of them are fishing. Compared to the sabani-type fishing boats sailing nearby, Guardfish is huge, as you can see. [The helicopter approaches White Beach] This is White Beach in Katsuren-cho. The submarine came into the port shortly after noon, about an hour behind schedule. This is the sixth port call by a nuclear submarine at White Beach since February. Water near the stern turned milk white after the submarine came alongside the pier. Okinawan reformist groups, with banners opposing port calls by nuclear submarines, gathered on the hill overlooking White Beach, and raised voices of protest. The previous port call by Guardfish was made 18 months ago, in 1988. According to the U.S. Forces, the purpose of the port call this time is to receive supplies and to give rest to crew members. However, it is still unknown when the submarine will leave. [end video report]

Preparations for, Comments on No Visit Continue

ROK Envoy on Emperor's Apology

OW1605140190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1310 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 16 KYODO—South Korea's Ambassador to Japan Yi Won-kyong implied Wednesday that South Korea wants an apology from Japanese Emperor Akihito for Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of Korea, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) sources said. Yi told LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa that South Korea will seek no political remark from the Japanese Emperor who is the symbol of state under the Constitution. However, Yi said the Emperor will be able to express his own feelings if he is sincere, according to the sources.

Ozawa briefed Yi on opinions in Japan opposing the political use of the Emperor and sought South Korea's careful response concerning Emperor Akihito's remarks to President No Tae-u, due to visit Japan on May 24-26 as a state guest. Emperor Akihito is scheduled to meet No and to host a court banquet in his honor, both May 24. Much attention focuses on the Emperor's remarks at the meeting and banquet since South Korea has called for an apology from him.

The late Emperor Hirohito, speaking at a banquet for No's predecessor Chon Tu-hwan in September 1984, said "It is indeed regrettable that there was an unfortunate past between us for a period in this century and I believe that it should not be repeated."

No told Japanese reporters Monday that an ambiguous Japanese apology will cause Koreans to question the sincerity of the Japanese people, implying he hoped for a clear apology from Emperor Akihito for the suffering caused by Japan's colonial rule.

Many LDP leaders are opposed to a South Korean suggestion that the Emperor offer an apology, contending that the monarch should not be involved in political affairs.

Yi, explaining No's comment to Japanese reporters, said the President would like to settle the past and make his

Japan visit an occasion for a new cooperative relationship between the two countries, according to the LDP sources. Yi, a former foreign minister, urged Japan to respond sincerely to No's wishes, the sources said.

Kaifu To Give 'Frank Apology'

OW1705102990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0651 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Thursday he will express Japan's sincere and frank apology to South Korean President No Tae-u for Japan's conduct on the Korean peninsula and throughout Asia before and during World War II.

Kaifu, speaking at a session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, said he will offer a heart-felt apology on behalf of Japan. "We deeply reflect the grave suffering and damages that we gave to the whole of Asia, including the Korean peninsula," Kaifu said. "We regret the errors we have made in the past. I will take this opportunity of the president's visit here to say so in a humble and candid manner," Kaifu said.

The prime minister was replying to Sadao Yamahana of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), the No. 1 opposition party, who asked Kaifu how he would clarify Japan's war responsibility in Asia. Kaifu said his cabinet would assume the responsibilities for Emperor Akihito's remark at a court banquet in No's honor. He said the monarch should not be utilized politically.

No, who is due to visit Japan May 24-26, is scheduled to meet the emperor and attend the banquet at the Imperial Palace on the day of his arrival.

What the emperor might say at the banquet has drawn much attention in Japan and in South Korea since the government in Seoul has called for a clear-cut apology from the Japanese monarch for Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of Korea.

President No told Japanese reporters in Seoul on Monday that an ambiguous Japanese apology would cause Koreans to question the sincerity of the Japanese people. No apparently implied that he hopes for a clear apology, not just from Kaifu but from the emperor himself.

Leaders of the Japanese Government and its ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], however, are opposed to an imperial apology, saying the emperor, under the Constitution, is the symbol of state and has no political power.

South Korea's mass media bristled earlier this week over reported comments by an unnamed senior LDP leader, who said there is no need to accede to Koreans.

Kaifu stopped short of committing himself with the JSP proposal to issue a Diet resolution expressing Japan's apology for its past conduct and World War II responsibilities. The prime minister told the Budget Committee session that all political parties should discuss the matter and resolve it.

Meanwhile, representatives of political parties agreed to set the stage for No to give a speech at a House of Representatives plenary session on the morning of May 25, the second day of his stay, officials said. Leaders of political parties are to attend a welcome reception for the South Korean president the same day, the officials said.

The Japan Communist Party [JCP], the No. 3 opposition party, said its 16 members in the powerful lower chamber will be present at the plenary session to listen to No. The JCP opposed a September 1984 visit to Japan by No's predecessor, Chon Tu-hwan, saying Chon's government was a dictatorial regime that assumed power through a military coup.

No is publicly elected and he has become a representative of South Korea, a senior JCP official said. No is the second South Korean president to visit Japan.

Arson Attacks Linked to Visit

OW1705024690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0220 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—Six cars erupted in flames almost simultaneously at various locations in Tokyo and Chiba Prefecture early Thursday morning in what police suspect was a terrorist attack protesting next week's visit of South Korean President No Tae-u. Four of the cars were parked close to three Justice Ministry facilities in the Tokyo metropolitan area and neighboring Chiba Prefecture. The other two were parked at the homes of two Justice Ministry officials.

Police recovered coffee cans and wires at the scene of each fire which they believe to be the remains of homemade incendiary devices. All the fires occurred at around 3 A.M.

A leftist extremist group, Chukakuha (Middle Core Faction), has vowed to disrupt No's visit, which it says is a step toward resuscitating the greater East Asian coprosperity sphere which Japan sought to establish in the 1930's, leading to its entry into World War II. Police plan to mobilize more than 20,000 security personnel during No's three-day visit, which begins next Thursday.

Nakayama on Release of Koreans

OW1705104890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0649 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO— Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Thursday he may request South Korean President No Tae-u to facilitate the early release of 14 Korean residents of Japan imprisoned in South Korea for political offenses. Nakayama told opposition parliamentarians and relatives of the prisoners that he is

considering making the request on humanitarian grounds during No's May 24-26 visit.

It would be the first time for Japan, which regards such prisoners as an internal Korean affair, to make such a request in an official capacity. Nakayama made the comment after receiving a petition from the parliamentarians and relatives, who say that the prisoners were not given fair trials.

Choe Chong-suk, whose father has been imprisoned for the past 17 years on spy charges, handed Nakayama a petition signed by 200 people urging the government to petition for the release of her father. Choe, 28, urged Nakayama to end the "sadness and heart-ache" for her and other relatives of Korean residents of Japan whose loved ones have been arrested while visiting South Korea.

The petitioners allege that the prisoners have not received fair justice, and that some have been imprisoned on the basis of forced confessions.

'Strong Possibility' DPRK May Release Seamen

OW1505231590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1456 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 15 KYODO—Japanese Government sources said Tuesday there is a strong possibility that two Japanese seamen who have been held by North Korea since 1983 for espionage may be released around September. Isamu Beniko, 60, and Yoshio Kuriura, 59, skipper and first mate of the Japanese freighter Fujisan Maru No. 18, were sentenced to "15 years of reformation through labor" after being convicted of espionage by a North Korean court in December 1987.

North Korea has informally notified Japanese Government sources that North Korean criminal law stipulates that each day of detention pending trial amounts to three days of reformation through labor for those who are given the sentence. The period of detention pending trial of the two Japanese was four years and one month and amounts to 12 years and three months of reformation through labor, the sources said.

Based on the legal formula, the two Japanese only have to serve their sentence for two years and nine months and will complete their term of incarceration in September, the sources said.

The seamen were arrested in November 1983 when their ship entered a North Korean port after a North Korean soldier, Min Hong Gu, stowed away to Japan aboard the vessel. A Japanese tourist said he saw the two Japanese working at a construction site in Pyongyang.

There are no diplomatic relations between Tokyo and Pyongyang. Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru has promised the wives of the Japanese seamen that he will do what he can to help gain the pair's early release and that he is prepared to visit North Korea if prospects for their freedom are promising.

Nakayama Told DPRK Seeks Improved Ties

OW1605151990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1454 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 16 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party [JSP] Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe told Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama Wednesday that North Korea wants to improve relations with Japan. Tanabe and JSP Diet member Hajime Fukada conveyed this to the foreign minister and agreed on further efforts to improve ties with North Korea, officials said.

The Japanese Government has no diplomatic ties with Pyongyang, with which the JSP has close links. Fukada led a JSP delegation to visit North Korea earlier this month and met with Ho Tam, Politburo member of the (North) Korea Workers Party.

Tanabe told Nakayama that the main opposition party will send a large mission to Pyongyang this summer and invite a high-level North Korean delegation to Japan.

Effort Urged To Make Assistance More Effective

OW1705070390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0530 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Thursday Japan needs to expand its official development assistance as part of its efforts to contribute to world peace and prosperity. Kaifu, speaking at a general meeting of the Council of Foreign Economic Cooperation, said his government will continue working with the international community to protect the global environment and to overcome swollen Third World debt.

Kaifu cited a need for Japan's economic assistance in the South Asian region he visited earlier this month. Leaders of India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, in a series of meetings with Kaifu during the April 28-May 6 trip, called for Japan's continued economic support, government officials said. Kaifu also visited Indonesia on the last leg of his nine-day whirlwind.

The advisory body also discussed the need for more accurate evaluations and qualitative improvement of Japan's economic assistance.

Japan has budgeted some 817.5 billion yen in official development assistance funds for the 1990 fiscal year, which started April 1. That amount represents an 8.2 percent increase over a year earlier.

The council reelected former Foreign Minister Saburo Okita as its chairman, officials said.

Meanwhile, Kaifu told the Diet later that Japan will sometime implement its 810 billion yen aid package to China which was frozen in the wake of China's military crackdown on the prodemocracy movement in June 1989. The aid package, which then Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita pledged in 1989, is a state-to-state promise, Kaifu said.

The prime minister, speaking at a session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, said there still are differences between China and Western advanced democracies. He said he expects China to seek improved ties with those countries.

North Korea

'Traitor' No's Visit to Japan Denounced

SK1705050390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The "Federation of South Koreans in Japan for Democracy and Reunification," the "South Korean Youth League in Japan" and the "South Korean Democratic Women's Association in Japan" issued a statement on May 10, denouncing the misrule of the "Democratic Liberal Party [DLP]" and the traitor No Tae-u's forthcoming visit to Japan, the newspaper MINJOK SIBO under the "South Korean Residents Association in Japan" (Mindan) reported.

The statement said:
After the emergence of the "DLP" an inequitable economic policy leaning toward big businesses is enforced, and the unions of the "Korea Broadcasting System" and the Hyundai heavy industries are suppressed by police. The "DLP" and the No Tae-u "government" are wholly to blame for this.

The statement demanded the dismantlement of the "DLP" and the resignation of the No "government."

It denounced the traitor No Tae-u's forthcoming visit to Japan, saying that through a flunkeyist treacherous diplomacy, the "DLP" standing on a weak foundation intends to prolong its days with the support of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan.

The statement urged an immediate stop to the traitor No Tae-u's forthcoming visit to Japan, noting that the anti-national trip to Japan to beg for support to South Korea's "unilateral admission to the United Nations" aimed at a permanent split cannot be tolerated.

'Emergency Alert' Issued to South Police

SK1705070190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0505 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The fascist clique issued an "emergency alert order" to police throughout South Korea on May 16 in connection with the tenth anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising, according to a report.

The fascist clique ordered riot police units to be prepared for action and, in case demonstrations or rallies are held, immediately mobilize "government power" to "strongly deal with them" during the "emergency alert" period which will last till May 28.

They also cried for tightening guards over "Democratic Liberal Party" offices, police buildings and foreign office buildings.

They defined the present situation as "critical phase" and placed the puppet cabinet under "emergency system", a kind of martial law system.

'Repressive Order' Creates 'Gruesome Atmosphere'

SK1705101590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT 17 May 90

["Blood of Kwangju Must Be Got Paid"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The puppet police headquarters May 14 issued the order that "government" power should be invoked to sternly counter the demonstration and sit-in of students and dissident democratic forces across South Korea which are expected to gain momentum on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising.

NODONG SINMUN today in a commentary says this means that the No Tae-u fascist clique has drawn the sword again to block the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising by South Korean students and people.

The news analyst notes:
It is natural that South Korean people and student renew their determination to fight on the occasion of the anniversary day of the Kwangju popular uprising.

The No group, however, already issued a repressive order and created a gruesome atmosphere of suppression. This is an insult to the Kwangju resistance fighters and a challenge to the popular masses who aspire after independence, democracy amd reunification.

The situation shows that the "Sixth Republic regime", "the regime of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP]," of the No group is a regime of Kwangju murderers and a military fascist "regime" surpassing the "Fifth Republic." This fascist frenzy of the murderous group foretells that it may stage the second Kwangju bloodbath in South Korea.

But South Korean people will never yield to the bayonet of the No group.

South Korean students and people know well that they can neither restore the sovereignty of the nation nor achieve social democracy and national reunification under "DLP regime" of the No group.

The aspirations of the Kwangju resistance fighters who called for independence, democracy and reunification will certainly be realised.

Delivery of 'Donated Equipment' Turned Down

SK1605161890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1553 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities on May 11 reportedly "approved" a "plan of free donation" of construction machines and cars to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a plan applied for by Chong Chu-yong's "Hyundai Group."

According to it, the "Hyundai Group" shipped the construction machines and cars from Pusan Port to Kobe Port of Japan and they are expected to reach Nampo Port on May 29.

In this regard, a KCNA reporter raised a question to a spokesman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland as to its stand on this matter. The spokesman said in his answer:

In January last year when Chong Chu-yong, honorary president of the "Hyundai Group" of South Korea, came to the northern half of Korea on a home visit, an economic cooperation contract for the joint development of Mt. Kumgang was signed between our competent organ and him.

He said then he would present some construction machines to us for a keepsake of his home visit.

This promise of his, however, has not been honoured up until now, more than one year after that, due to the No Tae-u Group's obstructions and no explanation has been given about the reason.

The South Korean authorities who have not "approved" the afore-said economic cooperation contract but doggedly obstructed its implementation, abruptly "approved" something now. It is hardly understandable.

To make matters worse, the disgusting label "free donation" is attached to the construction machines whose carrying-out was reportedly "approved" by them. This is not what Chong Chu-yong promised us. This cannot be construed otherwise than that an insidious political purpose lurks behind it.

We agreed to make a deal with Chong out of a desire to promote North-South collaboration and unity, not in the hope of getting something from him. Moreover, we do not expect anything like "donation" about which the puppets are now loud-mouthed.

Who would receive such presents to which the brand "free donation" is attached to impress others query, a present should reflect the goodwill and sincerity of the giver."

We make it clear that we have no intention at all to receive the "donated" equipment "approved" by the South Korean authorities.

As far as we are concerned, we produce and supply well any required machinery and equipment by ourselves.

Speaking at a press conference he called prior to his departure from the northern half of Korea last year, Chong Chu-yong confessed that he considered the economic construction was progressing at a fast pace in the North because it had developed technologies in considerable areas, was capable of producing and supplying all equipment and doing all work, big and difficult, by itself.

It is unbecoming in light of the gloomy South Korean situation that the South Korean authorities are talking big about "free donation" as if one or two construction machines mean much.

The world knows that most of the South Korean urban population including workers are suffering from homelessness at present.

If they have construction machines to donate free to somebody they would be well advised to build houses for the homeless workers in South Korea.

Answering a question of the reporter what he thought about the economic cooperation contract with Chong Chu-yong for the joint development of Mt. Kumgang, the spokesman declared:
I think this contract has already become invalid due to the No Tae-u group's obstructions.

Now we do not intend to have any dealings with the "Hyundai Group."

The responsibility for the collapse of the first hardwon economic cooperation contract between the North and the South entirely rests with the South Korean authorities who have obstructed its materialization, seeking North-South confrontation.

Telephone Message Sent on Red Cross Talks

SK1705051790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0305 GMT 17 May 90

[Telephone message sent by Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the DPRK Red Cross Society, to Kim Sang-hyop, president of the ROK Red Cross; dated 17 May—read by announcer]

[Text] To Kim Sang-hyop, president of the ROK Red Cross:

Relieving the fellow countrymen separated between the North and the South of their misfortune and pain is an urgent task that should not be delayed any longer today. No one should let the painful reality—in which those who were separated from their parents, wives, sons, and daughters in the forties and fifties cannot know even their whereabouts today when they are in their seventies and eighties—continue any longer.

Last year, in a sublime aspiration for giving the displaced fellow countrymen hopes for reunion with their flesh and blood and extensively relieving the separated families and relatives of their misfortune and pain by all means,

our side initiated the contact between the working delegates of the Red Cross organizations of the two sides to discuss the issue of the work of the second round exchange of art troupes and home-visiting groups and the resumption of the 11th round of the full-dress Red Cross talks and made every sincere effort to realize the issues on the agenda within the end of the year. As a result, the two sides agreed at the working delegates' contact that the work of the second round exchange of art troupes and home-visiting groups should be put into practice on 8 December and that the 11th round of the Red Cross talks should be resumed on 15 December.

As seen in this agreement, the two sides clearly agreed to carry out the work of exchanging the art troupes and home-visiting groups before the 11th round of the full-dress Red Cross talks. However, your side unilaterally rejected the working delegates' contact at the last stage making an issue of the repertoire of our art troupe, which should not constitute any problem, thereby making it impossible to carry out not only the work of the second round exchange of art troupes and home-visiting groups but also the 11th round of full-dress talks at the dates agreed upon.

If your side is truly interested in the resumption of the full-dress Red Cross talks, it should respond and come forth to the working delegates' contact of the Red Cross to realize the art troupes and home-visiting groups, since both sides agreed to carry out the exchange of the art troupes and home-visiting groups ahead of the full-dress Red Cross talks.

If the working delegates' contact is resumed and the work of the second round exchange of art troupes and home-visiting groups is realized smoothly, it will naturally lead to the resumption of the 11th round of full-dress Red Cross talks. Nevertheless, your side, ignoring the agreement of both sides, turned away from the resumption of the working delegates' contact, and unreasonably called for the resumption of the 11th round of full-dress Red Cross talks. This shows that your side does not want the full-dress Red Cross talks themselves as well as the work of the exchange of the art troupes and home-visiting groups.

Your side should not avoid the working delegates' contact making an issue of the repertoire of the art troupe, which should not constitute any problem, but be brave enough to decide to accept our revolutionary opera, "The Flower Girl," and respond and come forth to the working delegates' contact, so as to respond to the expectation of all the fellow countrymen who are looking forward to the realization of the work of the second round exchange of art troupes and home-visiting groups and the 11th round of full-dress Red Cross talks as soon as possible.

Moreover, under the present condition where the issue of realizing free visits and total openness between the North and the South has been put forward and where your side also welcomed it, if it is true, we do not think that there should be any reason why your side should not accept the revolutionary opera, "The Flower Girl." If your side expresses the position of accepting our just claim, our side will respond to the working delegates' contact at any time to discuss the issue of the work of the second round exchange of art troupes and home-visiting groups and the resumption of the 11th round of the full-dress Red Cross talks, whatever form the contact may take, whether it be a working delegates' contact, a contact between the heads of delegations, or an individual contact between delegates.

[Signed] Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the DPRK Red Cross Society
[Dated] 17 May 1990

'Fact-Finding Team' Sends Letter to UN

SK1705061590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0512 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The international fact-finding team for investigation into the concrete wall sent a letter to the secretary general of the United Nations on May 14.

Noting that the international liaison committee for the reunification and peace of Korea informed the United Nations through its letter dated March 6, 1990, that it had decided to dispatch international fact-finding teams consisting of personages with different political views to the spot to confirm the existence of the concrete wall built in the area South of the Military Demarcation Line which artificially divides the Korean people, the letter said:

Our international liaison committee sent letters on March 6 to the authorities of the North and the South of Korea, informing them of this, and asked them to provide conveniences for the work of the fact-finding teams in the areas of both sides of the Military Demarcation Line.

The Government of the DPRK sent an affirmative reply to our proposal, but the South Korean authorities made no reply.

The international fact-finding team visited the DPRK from April 26 to May 2 and made an investigation on the spot.

As you will know if you read a report jointly worked out by the international fact-finding team, our team clearly confirmed that there actually exists a formidable concrete wall in the area South of the Military Demarcation Line.

Our international fact-finding team was received by His Excellency President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and told him that it was advisable for the United Nations to send fact-finding teams to the areas of both sides of the Military Demarcation Line and make an investigation into the concrete wall.

The president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea responded affirmatively to this proposal, saying that if that were done, the United Nations would contribute to removing the obstacles lying in the way of North-South dialogue and realising the reunification and peace of Korea.

We believe that Mr. secretary general of the United Nations will take necessary measures for realising the dispatch of fact-finding teams which accords with the noble principles of the U.N. Charter since you assured us that you would avail yourselves of every opportunity to promote peace and peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula.

Yun Ki-pok Attends SKNDF Photo Exhibit

SK1705054590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0507 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—A photo exhibition opened at the People's Palace of Culture on May 16 to mark the tenth anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising under the sponsorship of the Pyongyang mission of the "South Korean National Democratic Front" [SKNDF] (Hanminjon).

The opening ceremony was attended by Yun Ki-pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, Chang Chol, Minister of Culture and Art, and Foreign Diplomats and correspondents here.

Chief of the mission Cho Il-min in his opening address said that the Kwangju popular uprising is of great historical significance in that it was an event which turned the movement for a change in the South Korean society, which had inclined too much to the anti-fascist pro-democracy struggle, into an anti-U.S. struggle for independence.

Experiencing the Kwangju bloodbath, the people clearly saw through the true color of the United States as the chieftain of murder and enemy of democracy and reunification, no longer regarding it as a "friend" and "helper", and directed the sharp edge of struggle to the U.S. imperialists, he said, and went on:

The U.S. imperialists and the military fascist clique are seized with great uneasiness and fear in the face of the people's resistance. The "Democratic Liberal Party" which was framed up in accordance with a script of U.S. imperialism will collapse soon and the destruction of the military fascist clique is inevitable.

U.S. Reduction of Troops 'Entirely Lies'

SK1705061190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0525 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The Commander of the U.S. Pacific Airforce said May 16 during his stay in Seoul that combat flying squadron of "F-16" equipped with night low flight and infrared mark discriminating mechanism would be additionally deployed in South Korea to reinforce the joint airforce strength of the South Korean puppet army and the U.S. forces, according to a report.

He said this in his speech on the subject "air defence strategy on Korean peninsula in the 2000's" at a seminar and an exhibition.

This proves that "reduction" of the U.S. troops stationed in South Korea and "detente" advertised by the U.S. imperialists are entirely lies.

U.S. 'Frantically' Stages War Game Exercises

SK1705114190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists brought fighter-bombers, assault planes, airborn warning and control planes, pursuit-assault planes and refuelling tankers such as "F-16," "F-15," "A-6," "OA-10," "FA-18," "KC-135" to the sky above Sosan, Anmyon Island, Hongchon and Sangdong areas from their overseas bases from around 10:00 to around 18:00 on May 14 and staged preemptive strike and mid-air refuelling exercises to increase combat capacities for "an event of contingency," according to military sources.

From around 10:00 to around 12:00 that day they brought formations of "A-6" assault planes, "AV-8" VTOL [vertical takeoff and landing] planes and "KC-130" refuelling tankers from their overseas bases and let them stage aerial exercises aimed at first-strike at targets in the central and inland areas of the northern half of Korea in the sky above Yoju, Kangnung and Wonju areas in cooperation with formations of the "F-16," "F-4" and "F-5" fighter-bombers of the U.S. Seventh Airforce stationed in South Korea and the puppet airforce.

The warplanes mobilised in the aerial war exercises in the sky above South Korea that day totalled more than 570.

From the 16th of May the U.S. imperialists frantically staged combined shooting exercises of different arms for surprise strikes at main targets in the northern half of Korea with a massive mobilisation of formations of "F-16" fighter-bombers of the U.S. Seventh Airforce and of "AH-1" helicopters of the U.S. Second Infantry Division occupying South Korea and large-calibre artillery pieces.

From the 14th of May the South Korean puppets staged frantic joint exercises to invade the North in the sky and on the ground, supported by helicopters with the mobilisation of puppet infantry units, inciting the atmosphere of war.

This clearly shows how frantically the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are running about to lead the situation on the Korean peninsula to a more acute phase.

Further on U.S. Workers Party Delegation Visit

Talks With Kim Il-song

SK1605113690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song today received the visiting delegation of the Workers World Party of the United States led by Sam Marcy, chairman of the National Committee of the party.

Present on the occasion were Choe Tae-pok, secretary of C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], director Kim Yong-son and vice-director Kim Hyong-u of a department of C.C., the WPK.

Comrade Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The guests presented him with a gift.

Comrade Kim Il-song gave a luncheon for them.

Gift Given to Kim Chong-il

SK1605113990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the visiting delegation of the Workers World Party of the United States [WWPUS].

The gift was handed to an official concerned by Sam Marcy, chairman of the National Committee of the party, who is leading the delegation.

Further on Soviet Military Group Visit

Meets With O Chin-u

SK1705110790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—Minister of People's Armed Forces O Chin-u today met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the general political department of the army and naval fleet of the USSR led by Lt-Gen. [Leutenant General] Vladimir Grebenyuk, deputy director of the department.

Present there were Col. Gen. [Colonel General] Yi Pong-won and Boris Morozov, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Soviet Embassy in Pyongyang.

USSR Remains 'Reliable Ally'

SK1705125790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1106 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—A soldiers' meeting of the General Political Bureau of the Korean People's Army was held today at a unit to which Comrade Ok Pong-nin belongs to welcome the delegation of the General Political Department of the Army and Vaval Fleet of the USSR.

Speaking at the meeting, Col. Gen. [Colonel General] Yi Porg-won said that today the Soviet people and Army are working hard to make economic progress of socialism and increase defence capabilities in accordance with the decisions of the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the 19th party conference of all unions.

He continued:

The Soviet party and government are striving to eliminate nuclear and chemical weapons, drastically reduce conventional weapons in the international area and build a world free from war. The Korean people and soldiers of People's Army rejoice over the successes made by the fraternal Soviet people and Army and wish them greater success in the future.

To constantly consolidate and develop the friendly and cooperative relations between the Korean and Soviet peoples and armies is more important in view of the requirement of the obtaining situation today. The U.S.-led imperialists are viciously scheming to stifle the socialist countries under the cloak of "detente" and "peace." The socialist countries should heighten revolutionary vigilance against the evermore crafty attempt of the imperialists and always strengthen their unity, firmly holding the weapons of revolution and class.

Our people and the officers and men of the People's Army will, as in the past, in the future, too, always firmly unite with the Soviet people and Army and struggle together against imperialism and for peace and the victory of the cause of socialism, he declared.

Head of the delegation Lt-Gen. [Leutenant General] Vladimir Grebenyuk, deputy director of the General Political Department of the Army and Naval Fleet of the USSR, spoke next.

Noting that the militant friendship between the two peoples has deep historic roots, he said: The annals of the Soviet-Korean friendship continued during the war unleashed by the U.S. imperialists against the DPRK.

The Soviet people and soldiers of its Armed Forces are actively involved in Perestroyka, according to the initiative of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, he said, and went on:

The Soviet Union put forward peace proposals on several occasions and has made tangible progress in cutting military spendings and in lessening the threat of world war by imperialists.

As long as the United States stages without let-up "Team Spirit" military maneuvers and exercises of various other sizes more than 100 times in the Pacific every year, reliable national defence capabilities remain a matter of vital significance in our two countries and the Soviet Army and the Korean People's Army should be continuously strengthened.

The peaceloving policy of socialist Korea is playing a very great role in making the Asia-Pacific situation sound.

The Soviet people and soldiers of the Soviet Armed Forces are warmly supporting the Korean people's struggle to force the U.S. troops immediately and completely out of South Korea and create favourable conditions for reunifying the country in a peaceful way on a democratic basis without interference of outside forces.

The proposal advanced by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in his New Year address to make the Korean situation sound and create favourable conditions for North-South dialogue and the DPRK's recent proposals are evoking great repercussions and support.

I assure you that the Soviet Union and its Armed Forces will always remain your reliable ally and Comrades-in-Arms standing alongside at the post to defend the socialist gains.

Soviet Embassy Staff Visits Historic Site

SK1605153890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1519 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA)—Boris Morozov, charge d'affaires ad interim, and officials of the Soviet Embassy here today visited the Kunja Revolutionary Site on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

Listening to the story that the great leader President Kim Il-song visited there to rouse the Korean workers to the war-time production during the hard-fought Fatherland Liberation War, the guests went round the Kunja Revolutionary Museum and historical mementoes.

Further on Chinese Party Friendship Group Visit

Kim Il-song Receives Wang Qun

SK1705103590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song today received the friendship visiting group of the Communist Party of China [CPC] headed by Wang Qun, member of the CPC Central Committee and secretary of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Regional Committee of the CPC, on a visit to our country.

Present on the occasion were Department Director Kim Yong-sun and Department Vice-Director Kwon Min-chun of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Chiang Zhengcai, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Chinese Embassy here.

Comrade Kim Il-song had a cordial and friendly talk with the guests.

He was presented with a gift by the head of the group.

Kim Chong-il Receives Gift

SK1705105990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the head of the friendship visiting group of the Communist Party of China [CPC] on a visit to Korea.

It was handed to an official concerned by head of the group Wang Qun, member of the CPC Central Committee and secretary of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Regional Committee of the CPC.

Gathering With Chinese Youth Held in Pyongyang

SK1605153590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1517 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA)—A friendship gathering was held on May 15 between officials of League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] in Hamhung and members of the delegation of the Communist Youth League of China.

Participating in the gathering were O Il-hyon, secretary of the South Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee, Yi Chang-nin, chairman of the South Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the LSWYK, LSWYK officials in Hamhung and members of the delegation of the CYLC led by Xiao Dongsheng, editor-in-chief of the Chinese Youth Magazine.

An art performance was given by young men and women of the two countries at the gathering.

The participants deepened the feelings of friendship, dancing and singing songs of the two countries together.

They also spent a pleasant time, having sport and amusement games.

Week of Korea-Iran Friendship Opens in Pyongyang

SK1605154690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1522 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA)—A "Week of Korea-Iran Friendship" opened on the occasion of the first

anniversary of the historic meeting between President Kim Il-song and His Excellency Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

An opening ceremony of the week took place in Pyongyang Wednesday.

Vice-premier Kang Hui-won was present at the ceremony.

Chong Ha-chol, chairman of the Radio and TV Broadcasting Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and chairman of the Korea-Iran Friendship Association, made a speech.

The functions scheduled in the week will be conducive to further developing the friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Iran which was brought into full bloom by the significant meeting between the leaders of the two countries, he said.

Noting that both Korea and Iran are non-aligned countries which value Chajusong more than anything else and are advancing hand in hand to build a bright future of Asia, he said: The peoples of the two countries have established relations of friendship and cooperation on the basis of the noble idea of chajusong and principle of equality and mutual benefit, and have constantly consolidated and developed ties of friendship in the common struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism.

Today the Iranian people are striving to rehabilitate the destroyed economy, achieve an over-all stability of the country and build an independent and prosperous new Iran under the leadership of the Islamic leader His Excellency Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i and His Excellency President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

He expressed the belief that the good relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries would expand and develop in the future.

Ghasem Saeedi, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Iranian embassy here, spoke next.

He pointed out that the Korean people have built a developed country and established an advanced social system as today, repulsing the pressure from imperialists.

Noting that a vigorous work is under way in the DPRK to fulfil the third seven-year plan, he said the Korean people have registered enormous achievements in all fields.

He expressed support to the Korean people's efforts to strengthen the independent economy and further develop technology, adding that the Korean people are successfully carrying on these efforts under the wise guidance of his excellency President Kim Il-song and his excellency Kim Chong-il.

Referring to the friendly relations between the two countries developing with each passing day, he noted that the visit to the DPRK of His Excellency Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, former President of the Islamic Republic of Iran and leader of the Islamic Revolution, last year marked a turning point in the development of the relations between Iran and Korea.

The Islamic Republic of Iran denounces the hostile policy and aggressive moves of the United States against the DPRK, he noted, and expressed support to the proposals and initiatives of His Excellency President Kim Il-song for the reunification of Korea.

Vice-Premier Meets Iranians

SK1705052590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0457 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier Kang Hui-won met and had a friendly conversation at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on May 16 with a government cultural and friendship delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran led by Musa Hoseini, general director of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance.

Iranian Film Week Opens

SK1705130990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1103 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—An Iranian film week opened today with due ceremony at the Pyongyang Internatinal Cinema House on the occasion of the "Korea-Iran friendship week".

Attending there were Vice-Minister of Culture and Art Kim Chong-ho, Kim Chin-pom, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries who is concurrently vice-chairman of the Korea-Iran Friendship Association, and other officials concerned and working people in the city.

Present on invitation were members of the Government Cultural Friendship Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Ghasem Saeedi [name as received], charge d'affaires ad interim of the Iranian Embassy here.

Speeches were exchanged at the opening ceremony.

Then, the participants appreciated an Iranian feature film.

Japanese Officials Assail School Incident

SK1705050190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Tokyo May 15 (KNS-KCNA)—Japanese personages issued statements denouncing the authorities' unreasonable repression of a Korean School in Japan.

Katsusuke Ozawa, socialist member of the House of Representatives, in his statement said that after socialist members of the House of Representatives formed a fact-finding group and made a spot inquiry into the

Tokyo Korean Middle and High School he was convinced that the government authorities' recent investigation into the school was entirely unreasonable and was motivated by a political purpose. He added that he would clarify the truth of the recent incident through a thorough investigation and consultation and actively push this problem at the Japanese Diet and on various occasions.

Tadayoshi Fukuda, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Teachers Union, strongly urged the metropolitan police office to immediately release the arrested persons and never to repress a Korean school again.

Kikuko Suzuki, socialist member of the House of Representatives, denounced the Japanese police authorities' extensive investigation into the Korean school as an unpardonable act.

It is surprising that police intruded into the inviolable seat of education and over 100 mobile police blocked the gate of the school and forcibly made an investigation for more than two hours and even confiscated many documents which had nothing to do with the case. This is something beyond imagination, he remarked.

Foreign Minister Greets Outgoing Bulgarian Envoy

SK1605112190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1044 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today met and conversed with Bulgarian Ambassador to Korea Peter Danailov who paid a farewell call on him.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Cypriot Leader

SK1205152090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 12 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on May 12 warmly congratulated Vasos Lissaridhis, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Cyprus, on his 70th birthday. Expressing the belief that the excellent friendly relations between the two parties will continue to favorably develop in the future, Comrade Kim Il-song in his message wished him greater success in his noble work for the strengthening and development of the Socialist Party of Cyprus and social progress.

Hwang Chang-yop Meets Finnish, Syrian Delegations

SK1505044190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—Secretary Hwang Chang-yop of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Monday met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the Tampere Institute of Peace Research, Finland, led by Director Vyrki Kakonen [name as received].

Present on the occasion was Yi Chi-su, president of the Academy of Chuche Science.

Secretary Hwang Chang-yop also met and had a friendly talk Monday with the delegation of the High Institute of Political Science of Syria led by Director Muhammad Akram al-Ahmar.

Kim Chong-il 1988 Work as 'Immortal Classic'

SK1505104590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today dedicates a signed article to the second anniversary of the publication of "Let Us All Live and Struggle Like Heroes", an immortal classical work of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il (May 15, 1988).

The work is a programmatic work which powerfully encourages and inspires the entire Korean people to a heroic struggle to carry the revolutionary cause of chuche through to accomplishment by inheriting the heroic fighting traditions of the Korean nation.

It proudly sums up the brilliant history in which the heroic fighting tradition of the Korean nation was established and has been carried forward and developed and gives a comprehensive exposition of the orientation and ways of rousing the entire people to a new heroic struggle by inheriting the tradition.

The article says:
An important idea expounded in the work is, above all, to help all the party members and other working people to have a deep understanding of the greatness of the traditions of the heroic struggle and continuously add brilliance to it.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il said:
"We must carry forward our people's glorious fighting traditions and rouse all the people forcefully to a heroic struggle to accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche."

The origin of the heroic struggle of the Koreans was given by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song during the days of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song nursed the historical root of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, the most heroic struggle, and has brought up a large number of heroes and heroines at each stage of the developing revolution.

The fact that the Korean people have given full play to mass heroism is an expression of the immovability and solidity of their revolutionary faith in holding the party and the leader in high esteem.

It is an invariable faith the Korean people have cherished in their minds through historical experiences that only when they hold the respected leader in high esteem and follow him can the road of the revolution be paved with success and they can win victory after victory without any turns and twists.

The Korean people's faith has been inherited with credit and the tradition of heroism is carried forward on its basis. Its main factor is the greatness of the party and the leader and the validity of the party policies.

The brilliant inheritance of the tradition of heroism of the Korean people is guaranteed by the superior socialist system of our own style emboding the chuche idea.

The work also gives a new, deep-going scientific exposition of the chuche-based viewpoint on the heroic life and struggle.

In our society where the people have become the masters of the country, not only those with outstanding qualities, but also the ordinary people can all become heroes. A man who is completely devoted to the cause of the party and the leader can become a hero.

Man does not live in isolation, but live as a member of society and collective. Therefore, the worth of his life is appraised by how much he contributes to the society and the collective.

No noble self-sacrifice or heroic deed can be expected from a man who is selfish. Heroic deeds can be performed only by a man who believes that a worthy life is to devote oneself to the society and the collective which are incomparably more precious than one's individual self.

Living and fighting heroically is the way for a man to exalt his most precious socio-political integrity and make himself immortal.

A long life is not a measure of the value of one's life. A man ought to live like a hero even if he is to live a moment.

'Bright Future' for Country Under Party, Leader

SK1605110390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today devotes one whole page to a signed article titled "Our People's Revolutionary Pride in Ushering in Bright Future of the Country Under the Party's Leadership."

Our country is, indeed, a brilliant country which guarantees not only a worthwhile life of our generation but also eternal happiness of the generations to come, the article says, and continues:
A bright future of our country is being built under the wise leadership of the party and the leader. This is the greatest happiness and glory of our people.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has said:
"It is our noble duty to build a happy future nationly for ourselves and our generation but also for the generations to come."

The leadership of the party and the leader is the basic factor of all victories in the struggle to shape the destiny of the country and create its future.

It is because our people have the great Comrade Kim Il-song as their leader and are under his wise guidance that they could defeat the strong imperialists, restore the lost country and build a prosperous socialist country in a historically short period by rushing forward in the spirit of chollima under the very complicated and difficult conditions. Our country means immediately the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song. He enjoys boundless respect and trust of the entire Korean people as the sun of the nation and their father. It is because he gave the origin of everything precious of the country, shouldering the destiny of the country and the nation from his early years, and laid solid foundations for its prosperity and development.

Today, the Workers' Party of Korea takes full responsibility for our country and people and our revolution and confidently leads them to a bright future.

Our glorious party is a powerful weapon for the nation building and its bright future.

Noting that our country advancing under the guidance of the great party and the leader is displaying its honour as a great country with a bright future, the article continues:
The brilliant future of our country lies, first of all, in the fact that there is the great chuche idea.

The chuche idea founded by the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, an outstanding thinker and theoretician, is not only a guideline which enables the working class and other people in our era to carry on the revolutionary cause without the slightest deviation but also an immortal work which will have an eternal vitality in the future, too. The fundamental question in building a bright future of the country is to defend, develop and apply this idea. To achieve an overall victory of the chuche ideal and model of the whole society on this idea—herein lies a bright future of our country.

Outstanding and great are the exploits performed by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il in enriching the treasurehouse of the chuche idea with his profound, creative ideological and theoretical activities.

It is the unswerving principle of our party to firmly arm people with the chuche idea and make the revolution and construction our own way.

Our people have the chuche idea which holds the highest peak in the independent development of human thought and the chuche idea has become the only creed of the entire people. This is the most precious of all the wealth for the future of our country.

The bright future of our country lies also in that the most superior and vital social system has been established.

Our people have become firmly convinced through their life experience that our socialist system is the best, and would not exchange it for anything, and are devotedly working to add brilliance to the social system and all the wealth of the socialist country. Any moves of the imperialists to turn back the wheel of history and break the people's faith of socialism will not work on our people.

The future of mankind is socialism, not imperialism. Though there may be temporary trials and turns in the way of advance, it is historically inevitable for mankind to advance toward socialism and communism. As there is the peculiar socialist system of our own style which our people chose, established and has managed by themselves, waging a vigorous struggle for a long time under the leadership of the party and leader and whose vitality has been proved in actual life, our country will shine as a bright beacon giving the people great vitality and hope, as a pioneer of the times.

The powerful subject of the revolution with the entire people singleheartedly united around the party and leader is a fundamental guarantee for the glorious future of our country. Our people are determined with full confidence to share their destiny with the party to the last and keep advancing toward the ideal of mankind, overcoming whatever hard storm and wave.

Our singlehearted unity, with the entire people rallied closely around one centre, on the basis of one idea and one desire, herein lies our immense strength which makes it possible to win victory over any enemy encroaching upon the sovereignty of the nation and a secret of creation which brings earlier the bright future of the country.

In our country today the people and the invincible revolutionary armed forces with high revolutionary spirit and militancy are closely rallied behind the party central committee. This is a sure guarantee of the national dignity and sovereignty in future. The indestructible unity and cohesion of the leader, the party and the masses achieved in our society is the very great foundation which makes it possible to firmly defend the lifeline of the revolution and add lustre to the future of the country no matter how many years may go by.

Indeed, the future of our country is bright in all aspects. The whole society is imbued with the chuche idea, the entire people, united as one in mind, enjoy an independent life and happiness to their heart's content, loudly singing the song of creation and construction,,and everything, desired and dreamed of by mankind for generations, is completly realized. This earthly paradise will be the future of our country.

Confidence in the future of the country is the ideological and spiritual motive force of love for the country and the will to add luste to it, the article says, and stresses: we should display noble spirit, conscious that our country with brilliant today and tomorrow is the best, in the practical struggle for national prosperity and reunification.

Automated Press Development Reported

SK1605102890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA)—The October 5 general automation works of the DPRK has manufactured a flexible press complex.

It is flawless in precision, speed and modernization level.

This type of press, controlled by a computer, automatically makes holes of different forms and sizes in metal and plastic sheets for switchboards, control boards, etc.

The press increases the work efficiency more than 20 times while dealing with as much work as was previously done at some ten processes so that many production facilities and labour may be saved and better culture ensured in work.

It consists of the main body, carrying device and control device.

The press automatically makes holes on sheets supplied by the carrying device with stamps fixed in a round frame. The processing appears on the screen of the control device.

14 designs of stamps are fixed in the frame and there are some 200 designs of reserve stamps.

The flexible press complex was developed by students of Kim Il-song University and Kim Chaek University of Technology—three-revolution team members dispatched to the October 5 general automation works—in cooperation with technicians of the works.

Hydroelectric Power Stations Increase Output

SK1405105090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—The minor hydropower stations of Korea have lifted the daily power output 39 percent above the same period last year.

[word indistinct] the workers of the power stations under the Chagang Provincial Complex of minor power stations, the Maebong power station in Tongrim County, North Pyongan Province, and the Suribong power station in Yongbyon have largely boosted the daily output compared with the same period last year by keeping a high water-level.

More than 80 units including Hochon and Pujon Counties have gone over to a production system depending on power supplied by minor stations in South Hamgyong Province where more than 300 minor hydro-power stations have been built in recent years.

Many units in various counties of Yanggang Province depend on locally-produced electricity in lighting and heating.

Korea builds many minor hydro-power stations by making a rational use of the rich hydraulic resources of the country. 35 stations have been built this year.

Summer Fishing Begins, Catch Reported

SK1405230990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1457 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—Summer fishing has started in Korea.

The fishery stations are reporting big hauls these days.

The Nakwon Fishery Station is hauling 30 tons in each netting by occupying the central fishing ground and carrying on active fishing operations.

The Samho, Tanchon and Soho fishery stations are increasing fish catch by conducting mobile actions with quick grasps on the direction and characteristics of the movements of fish shoals.

Fishermen's cooperatives are these days concentrating on the catch of fishes which are moving towards the coasts.

The cooperatives in South Hamgyong Province including the Soho fishermen's cooperative are hauling 50 to 60 tons of fish daily by applying various fishing methods.

Sea Culture Farms Harvesting Sea Vegetables

SK1505103490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—Sea culture farms of Korea are now busy harvesting sea vegetables.

As of May 10, the output of sea vegetables was 50 percent up as against the same period last year, according to data available at the commission of fisheries.

The fishery stations in South Hwanghae Province increased the output of sea tangles 25 percent in the first four months or so of this year above the same period last year.

The Pupo and Ongjin sea culture stations gathered 100 tons of sea tangles on an average and 130 tons at maximum from each hectare through a proper management of the culture farms.

The Tanchon fishery station under the South Hamgyong Provincial General Bureau of Fisheries has increased the area of sea tangle farm 2.5 times and gathered more than 100 tons of sea tangles per hectare and the Yongdae fishery station more than 110 tons on an average per hectare as against the same period last year. Sea culture stations in North Hamgyong, Kangwon and other provinces are picking more sea tangles and seaweeds than planned.

South Korea

North Hopes for Breakthrough in U.S. Ties

SK1705042690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 May 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Helsinki (AP)—North Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Chon In-chol said Tuesday he hoped for a breakthrough in relations with the United States when a congressional delegation visits Korea later this month.

The delegation will travel to the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea to accept the remains of five U.S. soldiers killed in the Korean War.

"The Berlin Wall has already fallen and we have no reason not to destroy the concrete wall erected by South Korea between our two countries. We hope the Americans will discuss our proposal for negotiations aimed at unifying Korea," Chon said at a news conference. Chon told reporters at the end of a three-day visit that north Korea will return the remains of all U.S. servicemen found on its territory.

"In case we find more remains, we will return them. We are not opposed to this...but in order to do that, there must be some kind of negotiations," Chon said.

Sihanouk Comments on North Korean Succession

SK1705020390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0109 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 17 (YONHAP)—North Korean leader Kim Il-song will not hand the reins of power to son and heir-apparent Kim Chong-il, his long-time friend Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Wednesday

The Cambodian resistance leader told a news conference that the septuagenarian hard-liner was still very healthy and widely respected in North Korea and would not give up the presidency easily.

Sihanouk, whom Kim has given a villa in Pyongyang and who attended Kim's 78th birthday party in April, quoted the head of communist North Korea as saying he had no wish to attack the southern half of the Korean peninsula and would devote all his energies to national development.

The prince declined comment when asked if there was any possibility of political reforms, such as the adoption of a multi-party system, in North Korea. Kim never talks about the future of politics in his country, Sihanouk said.

North Backs Out of Deals With Developer, Hyundai

SK1705043590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0235 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea has backed out of a deal with South Korean tycoon Chong Chu-yong to develop a scenic mountain into an international tourist resort, a government official in South Korea said Thursday.

North Korea has also refused to accept delivery of two sedans and five pieces of heavy equipment that Chong, the owner of South Korea's largest conglomerate, the Hyundai Group, promised as a gift during a visit to Pyongyang in January 1989, the National Unification Board official said.

The North is trying to freeze inter-Korean relations because it is afraid the winds of reforms and openness blowing through other communist countries may seep into the world's most isolationist nation, analysts say.

In a statement broadcast recently by Radio Pyongyang, the board official said, a spokesman for Pyongyang's Committee for Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland said, "the contract to jointly develop Mt. Kumgang has been nullified due to the South Korean Government's interruption."

The spokesman did not clearly explain what was meant by "interruption" though he charged that South Korea was responsible for frustrating the contract, the official said.

"We can hardly understand reports that the South Korean authorities, which have not approved the contract between us and the Hyundai Group but have desperately interrupted it, have suddenly permitted something (the delivery of the vehicles)," the North Korean spokesman was quoted as saying.

The spokesman accused the South of breaking Chong's promise by dubbing the gift a "grant" and said that the North would never deal with Hyundai again, the official said.

Chong and the North had agreed to jointly develop Mt. Kumgang (Diamond mountain), jointly invest in the construction of a shipyard and rolling stock plant and jointly participate in development projects in Siberia and the Soviet Far East. There have been no steps by either side to realize the deal, apparently due to cooled relations between the two Koreas.

In addition, the founder and honorary chairman of the Hyundai Group had promised to donate the items to the North.

"Chong said at that time he would donate some construction equipment to commemorate the visit to his hometown. How can we accept the items, which should be presented with good-will and sincerity, when they attempt to show off with a grant?" the northern spokesman was quoted as saying.

Two grandeur sedans and five construction machines, all made by Hyundai, were shipped to the Japanese port of Kobe earlier this month and were to be sent to Nampo Port later in the month.

The North unilaterally suspended inter-Korean dialogue late last year and has shown no signs of resuming talks with the South, including those for the reunion of separated families, a high-level political and economic meeting and a plenary session of parliamentarians from both sides.

Hyundai Responds 'Carefully'

SK1705072990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0717 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (OANA-YONHAP)—Hyundai Group, South Korea's biggest business combine, responded carefully Thursday to news reports that North Korea has canceled a deal with founder Chong Chu-yong to develop Mt. Kumkang in the North into an international tourist resort.

"We have no concrete reaction right now to the North Korean announcement. We feel the need to confirm the North's intentions through an established channel of communication that acts as a bridge between the two sides," a Hyundai official said.

"As far as the Mt. Kumkang (Diamond mountain) development project is concerned, Chairman Chong is the final decision-maker, but so far he has not said anything at all about it," said the official, who did not want to be named.

Pyongyang's Committee for Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland reportedly said in a recent statement carried by Radio Pyongyang that the North would not only nullify the deal with Chong to jointly develop the scenic mountain but also break off all ties with Hyundai.

"It was to show Hyundai's sincerity that we sent two cars and some heavy construction equipment to the North on May 9. We are still undecided whether to bring them back from Kobe, Japan," the official said.

During Chong's visit to Pyongyang in January 1989, he promised North Korea a gift of a dump truck, a bulldozer, a front-end loader, an excavator, a forklift and two 2.4 liter grandeur sedans, according to South Korea's unification board.

Another Hyundai offical accused the Japanese press of being excessively sensitive to South Korea's approach toward communist nations, including North Korea, complaining Japanese news reports "spoiled everything" by headlining otherwise secret activities.

Letter Urges North To Guarantee Farmer's Return

SK1705091990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0841 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean National Red Cross (KNRC) delivered a letter from Han Pil-song, a 58-year-old South Korean farmer who hopes to visit Pyongyang to meet his mother, to the North Korean Red Cross Society on Thursday at the truce village of Panmunjom. The letter appeals to Yi Song-ho, acting president of the North Korean Red Cross, to guarantee Han's safe return after visiting the North Korean capital.

Han said on May 9 that he had postponed his visit indefinitely as the North Korean Red Cross had virtually rejected his demand for a guarantee that he would be allowed to return to the South.

In a telephone message to the KNRC earlier this month, Yi said the north would guarantee Han's safety during his stay but that it was totally up to Han and his family, including his 85-year-old mother, whether he would return afterward.

Han had a tearful reunion with his sister Pil-hwa, a former North Korean speed skating queen, in Japan in March after 40 years separation. Han and his wife, Hong Ae-cha, 48, received an invitation from Pil-hwa, delivered through the KNRC, in response to a letter in late March expressing their hope to visit North Korea. The couple had planned to make a week-long trip to North Korea from May 15 and the government gave the green light to the plan.

KNRC President Kim Sang-hyop said in a message to Yi that he hoped Han's safe return would be realized.

North Rebuffs Request for Family Reunion Talks

SK1705062590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0614 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea has rebuffed a request by South Korea to resume talks on reunions of separated families, broken off four years ago, in Pyongyang this June.

Yi Song-ho, acting president of the North Korean Red Cross Society, in a telephone message Thursday to Kim Sang-hyop, president of the South Korean Red Cross, said, "We cannot resume the talks as long as Seoul refuses to allow the revolutionary opera 'Flower Maid' to be performed in the South."

Kim proposed May 7 in a letter to Yi that the two sides hold the 11th round of talks so they can exchange members of separated families and art troupes as soon as possible.

Japan Denies Defense Chief Defamed President

SK1705061790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0555 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—The Japanese Government has denied reports that Defense Agency Chief Yojo Ishigawa has made remarks defaming South Korean President No Tae-u. Korean Foreign Ministry Spokesman Chong Ui-yong said Thursday the Japanese denial was made to the Korean Embassy in Tokyo.

Japanese newspapers on Tuesday quoted Ishigawa as saying, "I wonder how much President No Tae-u knows about Japan's defense policy?"

He was responding to No's statement a day earlier that Asian nations would not welcome the replacement of U.S. forces by Japanese forces.

The denial claims that Ishigawa, asked by Japanese journalists to comment on No's remarks, said Japan could not fill the power vacuum left by the departure of U.S. troops as the constitution stipulates a defense-only policy and because the people would not accept it. The Japanese Government also expressed regret for the stir Ishigawa's remarks caused, Chong said.

The source of another provocative Japanese statement was found to be Ichiro Ozawa, secretary-general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). Ozawa told a meeting of key government and LDP officials Wednesday that he was sorry for having stirred up trouble with his remarks but did not say what the remarks were.

KYODO NEWS SERVICE on Monday quoted an unidentified senior LDP member as saying that "there is no need to go down on our knees and bow our heads" in response to Korean demands for Emperor Akihito to apologize for Japan's occupation of Korea (1910-1945).

The report provoked fervent criticism in Korea as a proof of Japan's reluctance to apologize its war crimes and the Korean press termed the remark "absurd."

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu reportedly said Wednesday he could not understand the true meaning of Ozawa's words. Meeting separately with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto after a cabinet meeting, Kaifu told them both that he would make a clear apology to the Korean people during No's state visit to Tokyo.

Japanese officials, except for Kaifu, Nakayama and Sakamoto, were ordered to keep silent on the subject of an apology after the remarks by Ozawa and Ishigawa caused a furor among Koreans, according to reports from Tokyo.

DLP-PPD Delegation To Visit Tokyo Before No

SK1705020590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0103 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—Pak Tae-chun, one of co-leaders of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) and concurrently Korean-side chairman of the Korea-Japan Parliamentarians Union, will visit Tokyo May 22 prior to President No Tae-u's state visit to Japan May 24-26.

Pak is scheduled to meet Japanese political leaders including Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and former Premier Noboru Takeshita, who is Japanese-side chairman of the parliamentarians union, to work out compromise over bilateral pending issues such as Japanese emperor's apology and legal status of Korean residents in Japan.

Pak will be accompanied by Reps. Chong Sok-mo, Chong Sang-ku, Pak Chong-yol, Yi To-son, So Chong-hwa, Yi Tong-chin, Ku Cha-chun of the DLP and Reps. Choe Yong-kun and Cho Se-hyong of the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy.

Pak visited Tokyo April 23-26 for talks with Japanese leaders in a bid to bridge differences over, then heated, legal status of Korean residents in Japan.

Government Protests Soviet Consul's Service

SK1705014490 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 14 May 90 p 1

[Text] Five months have passed since the office of the Soviet Consular Department in Korea was opened with the establishment of ROK-Soviet consular relations. The office of the Soviet Consular Department, however, has not begun to issue visas, a major consular function. As a result, it is feared that there may be friction in the improving relations between the two countries.

Confirming that "the Soviet side has not yet begun visa services even though five months have passed since the protocol on the establishment of ROK-Soviet consular relations was officially signed on 8 December 1989," a government authority revealed that "the government called Sirotyuk, acting consul of the Soviet Union, to the Foreign Ministry on 9 May, and officially protested the lack of visa services."

Noting that "it is diplomatic custom to begin visa services immediately after consular relations are established," the government representative said that "the Soviet side is giving insufficient manpower as a reason. However, it should have begun visa services in February at the latest, considering the period for preparation."

ROK officially began visa services in the Korea Consul office in the Soviet Union in February.

Due to the Soviet side's delay, those who want to visit the Soviet Union must undergo great inconvenience to obtain visas because they have to go to third countries, including Japan, to get them. In addition, it is feared that the improvement of ROK-Soviet relations will not lead to the expected goal of establishing diplomatic relations within this year, and that relations will be very much delayed.

The government official noted that "the Soviet side's delaying visa issuances cannot be understood, considering the fact that the Soviet side has operated the Seoul office of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry since April 1989, prior to the establishment of consular relations, and that Sirotyuk, acting consul, entered our country with diplomatic status and has been working in the Seoul office."

And, he revealed the "government is cautiously watching whether such a Soviet attitude is a simple delay because of an administrative mistake, or a kind of deliberate diplomatic gesture related to negotiations over improving ROK-Soviet relations."

In addition, he said that, in connection with the planned dispatch of a team to the Soviet Union in May to negotiate establishment of diplomatic relations, our government has not yet received any official information from the Soviet side on the size of the negotiating team, on the date for its visit to the Soviet Union, or on the agenda for the negotiations."

Visa Services To Start in June

SK1705031890 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 15 May 90 p 2

[Text] It was learned on 14 May that the office of the Soviet Consular Department in Korea will begin full-fledged visa services in June.

An official of the Foreign Ministry said that when he visited the Foreign Ministry last week, acting Soviet consul Sirotyuk explained that visa services have been delayed because of Soviet domestic affairs. And, the Foreign Ministry official revealed, Sirotyuk said the office of the Soviet Consular Department will begin visa services next month.

Bilateral Aviation Pact Signed With Poland

SK1705003390 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 17 May 90 p 3

[Text] Korea and Poland initialed a bilateral aviation agreement yesterday, paving the way for Korean-flag carriers to extend flight service to Poland, the Foreign Ministry said.

Son Chun-yong, director of the ministry's International Trade Bureau, and Zbigniew Dabkowski, general inspector of Civil Aviation of Poland, initialed the pact.

The two countries established diplomatic relations in November 1989.

Tension Mounts on Eve of Kwangju Anniversary

SK1705065390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0637 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Kwangju, South Korea, May 17 (YONHAP)—Tension is mounting anew in this southwestern city on the eve of the 10th anniversary of the Kwangju civil uprising as anti-government groups prepare for massive rallies and the police vow to break up unauthorized gatherings.

Student activists, radical workers and dissidents plan to hold large anti-government rallies Friday to mark the anniversary of the uprising, one of the most tragic incidents in modern Korean history, the brutal suppression of which by the Army claimed neary 200 lives by official count.

Street battles are expected when riot troopers try to break all rallies except those that are "purely memorial and cultural events" organized in connection with the May 18, 1980, uprising. Police have authorized five rallies Friday in front of the office building of the South Cholla provincial government, where troops first opened fire on the pro-democracy demonstrators 10 years ago.

Chondaehyop, or the National Student Representatives' Council, has reportedly directed radical students from across the nation to assemble in Kwangju for an anti-government gathering Saturday on the Chonnam University campus. Eight leaders of the country's largest student group are wanted by police for questioning on suspicion they led the May 9 protest against the inaugural convention of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party.

Police estimate 20 unauthorized rallies are planned by illegal bodies, including the National Alliance of Trade Unions and the National Teachers' Union. Students at Kwangju universities have already begun to mark the dark anniversary with on-campus gatherings to kick off a weekend of demonstrations.

It is far from certain that even the authorized rally on Friday will be held in peace as the police have imposed a three-hour time limit and restrictions on the boundaries of the gathering.

The police have announced they will bar a Chondaehyop gathering Saturday on the grounds that it is being arranged by people for whom arrest warrants have been issued and firebombs and other dangerous items were found stockpiled on a campus.

Some 7,500 riot troopers are deployed around campuses and public buildings in Kwangju and police are stepping up security at major check points to prevent students and workers from entering the city. Clashes between protesters and riot police erupted on Tuesday and Wednesday, leaving several people injured.

The tragedy in Kwangju occurred in the process of former President Chon Tu-hwan, then a military strongman, ascending to power in the vacuum after President Pak Chong-hui was killed by his chief bodyguard in late 1979. After President No Tae-u succeeded Chon, an ad hoc panel was set up in the National Assembly to investigate the Kwangju uprising and the killings, but was dissolved without ever discovering who held responsibility.

Public Polled on Implementing Stabilization Plan

SK1705021490 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 14 May 90 p 1

[Text] Many people think that the steps for stabilizing the current situation revealed by the president in his recent statement will be generally implemented. But they do not think that the situation will be stabilized.

According to a poll conducted by CHUNGANG ILBO's data bank bureau from 11 to 12 May on 1,000 adults over 20 years of age, 6.6 percent of the respondents said that the measures for stabilizing the situation, which are included in President No Tae-u's statement, will be implemented "thoroughly" while 48.6 percent predicted that they will be implemented "generally." However, 31.8 percent of the respondents stated that these measures will "never" be implemented. Thus, more respondents expressed an affirmative view. Meanwhile, only 25.8 percent of the respondents predicted that the economy and the society will be stabilized by the end of the year as stressed by the president's statement while 47.5 percent said that they will not be stabilized.

Younger people with a higher educational background were more negative in their views on the implementation of these measures. As to the possibility of stabilizing the situation, the younger people with higher educational backgrounds and more women than men replied that the situation will not be stabilized.

An overwhelming 64.3 percent of the respondents said that steps for preventing real estate speculation should be put into practice first to overcome the prevailing economic and social difficulties, and 37.5 percent of the respondents stressed that house prices and rents need stabilizing. Meanwhile, 37.3 percent stressed that the policy for attaining this goal should be implemented.

Another 5.4 percent of the respondents replied that if the ten largest business groups sell 15.7 million pyong of their real estate holdings as they have pledged, half of the current real estate speculation would be "almost" repressed while 44.2 percent said that it would be repressed "to a certain degree." However, 36.5 percent of the respondents replied that the real estate speculation would not be suppressed.

Concerning this year's management-worker disputes, 32.7 percent replied that the disputes would be "very" or "somewhat" serious, and 36.7 percent noted that they would be "somewhat" or "significantly" relaxed while 22.3 percent of the respondents said that the disputes would not differ remarkably from previous ones.

Of the respondents, 41.5 percent expressed "active" or "general" support for the government's use of power to resolve the illegal labor disputes. However, 41.8 percent showed "active" or "general" opposition, thus showing nearly equal percentages between those who support and oppose this action.

Meanwhile, 46.5 percent—nearly half of all respondents—pointed to the rise in consumer prices as the most serious of all recent economic issues; 16.5 percent to real estate speculation, and 15.8 percent to management-worker disputes.

The respondents are made up of equal numbers of men and women. Since the poll was conducted through telephone interviews, it is possible that greater weight might have been given to the respondents who belonged to the upper and middle classes.

DLP Considers Reforming National Security Law

SK1605021990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0204 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 16 (OANA-YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) is considering reforms that would replace South Korea's controversial National Security Law with a "democratic order protection law," a party source said Wednesday.

The change was proposed by DLP Chairman Kim Yong-sam when key party postholders met Monday at Chong-wadae, the presidential office and residence, the source said.

Kim's reform-minded faction contends that the National Security Law, which the opposition calls undemocratic, should be abolished and a new law, given the working title democratic order protection law, enacted to replace it because of changes in the international and domestic situations, said the source, who asked not to be identified.

Kim's faction also wants the so-called toxic articles of the National Security Law to be renounced by the new law, said the source. He declined to reveal further details.

Resistance is expected from the largest DLP faction, led by President No Tae-u, and a faction headed by Kim Chong-pil, the source said. These factions insist the security law be partially overhauled with some "toxic provisions" eradicated.

The security law, characterized by anti-communist articles, is under fire from liberal groups that contend it could be abused to infringe upon human rights and to suppress dissidents and similar anti-government forces. They also claim that the law hampers improvements in relations and exchanges with North Korea and other communist countries.

Taxi Drivers Postpone 15 May Rally, Protest

SK1605043490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0242 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 16 (YONHAP)—Taxi drivers called off a rally and unison horn honking protest in front of Seoul City Hall on Tuesday [15 May] evening just two hours before it was scheduled to take place.

In an emergency meeting of union presidents, the Seoul City chapter of the Federation of Labor Unions of Taxi Transport Workers postponed the protest because it was likely to cause serious traffic havoc in the city of over 10 million.

"We came to the decision not only to show our perseverance in pay negotiations with management but also to avert inconvenience to the public," a spokesman for the 50,000-member drivers union said.

"We will gather on Monday evening (May 21), however, unless pay negotiations are concluded Sunday noon," he said.

Representatives of drivers and employers remained far apart in their 16th round of negotiations Monday afternoon.

The union demanded a 17.3 percent increase in basic pay and an additional month's pay in the form of an annual bonus, while the employers offered 3 percent and no bonus. The government had decided to block the gathering, urging both sides to agree on a single-digit pay raise.

Burma

Ambassador to Thailand on U.S. Sanctions

BK1705020190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 May 90 pp 1, 3

[By Suphaphon Kanwirayothin]

[Text] The US Senate-sponsored bill banning imports of products of Burmese origin is a political move with no effect on the country, Burmese Ambassador to Thailand U Nyunt Swe said. In an interview with the BANGKOK POST yesterday, the ambassador said the US import value of Burmese goods, including teak, fish, gems and textiles, worth $17 million is "nothing" compared to that of Burma's exports to Thailand. The bill, proposed by Senator Daniel Moynihan and still under consideration in the House of Representatives, will have no impact on Burma or Thailand, he said.

"In general, when we sell our goods to a friend, we do not stipulate that they be sold or not sold to a third party, be it Japan or the United States or any other country," said the ambassador.

When Burma sells its resources to buyers it would be up to them to dispose of them locally or process them for export to other countries, he said.

"I believe Thai businessmen have customers other than the US to channel their exports to," he said.

Direct dealing between the US and Burma is "minimal", he said when asked about bilateral trade between the two countries. The ambassador added that American companies are still operating in Burma despite the US ban on Burmese commodities.

American-owned Unocal and Amoco are among foreign companies recently signing onshore oil exploration contracts with the Myanmar [Burma] Oil and Gas Enterprise.

"They are very big oil exploration ventures, whose expenditures far surpass the $17 million worth of Thai commodities exported to the US. I think it's just political pressure," the ambassador said.

"I don't think it has any bearing on Burma. We would sell our goods to any willing buyer. If they stop buying directly from us, then it is a problem we have to deal with. But to ban exports from Thailand would seem strange."

The ambassador, who has been in Bangkok for nearly four years, said that apart from raw materials, Thailand is supplied food products like water chestnuts and cashew nuts by Burma.

"There are a lot of American tourists in Thailand. How can they resist eating them? Again, the move is simply politics," he said.

Commenting on Western sanctions against Burma, he said Burma is a small country and it's no use instigating countries against Burma.

Concerning the criticism that Burma is inviting ecological catastrophe in letting Thailand exploit its rich teak reserves, U Nyunt Swe said he is confident that, with proper control and supervision by Thai and Burmese officials, logging concessions would not produce destructive results.

Some 200-300 Burmese officials from the Myanmar Timber Enterprise and the Forestry Department—10-15 being deployed at each border checkpoint—are working closely with Thai officials to ensure precise measurements of log sizes for appropriate taxation. The precise log measurements not only guarantee proper tax assessments but also prevent the felling of trees prematurely as stipulated in contracts between Thai concessionaires and the Myanmar Timber Enterprise.

"Such allegations are absurd. How can we sell small trees?" the ambassador said. He described as successful Thai-Burmese collaboration in the timber industry thus far.

Although he has heard no official complaints from Thai concessionaries regarding difficulties of log hauling because of ethnic insurgents, the ambassador said the Burmese Government has been trying to suppress the ethnic insurgency along the Thai-Burmese border. "Our army is all out to suppress the insurgents for our common goods," he said. The Government's operations have been reinforced by special forces to deal with communist insurgents to pressure them into surrendering their arms, he added.

Regarding the upcoming May 27 general election the ambassador said he is confident that it will be free and fair. In reply to widespread criticism that the polls can never be free and fair given the ongoing intimidation and arrests of prominent opposition figures, he said. "Gen [General] Saw Maung has been very straightforward. Don't be misled by outsiders who are out of touch with reality here. You Thai people understand our mentality better."

"The election will be free and fair as there will be on-the-spot vote-counting nationwide. Remote areas will face no communication problems." "The Election Commission will count votes on the spot there and then. Ballot boxes that have to be transported 400 km may be tampered with on the way." "The system will be applied nationwide. This is the main point about free and fair elections. But critics may deliberately ignore our efforts to ensure a free and fair election."

"Some people are singing the old tune—that the elections are not free and fair. Maybe they don't know what they are talking about."

The ambassador said Gen Saw Maung will have accomplished one of the most important task—a transfer of power to the winner after the election results are known.

As for alleged restrictive campaign regulations and the banning of opposition figures from the elections, he said all the policies made are in accordance with the present election law in Burma.

Concerning prominent opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest and barred from standing in the elections, he said "we have to separate the actions taken by the Government and those decided upon by the Election Commission.

"On July 19 last year on Martyrs Day, Aung San Suu Kyi organised some movement that was in violation of the election law." "That's what happened. And according to the amended election law, she is not entitled to stand in the election. This event did not concern the Government. It's the concern of the Election Commission."

Asian, Western Policies Toward Burma Compared

BK1705031790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 May 90 p 4

[Article by Suphaphon Kanwirayothin: "The Carrot, Not Stick, Will Liberalise Burma"]

[Text] While members of the western world see sanctions as a means to press for human rights and democracy in Burma, their eastern counterparts—notably Thailand, Singapore, China, South Korea and Japan—regard the advancement of economic relations as a way to inspire political development, Asian-style.

Like the West, the Asians say they too want to see political liberalisation in Burma. With democracy extolled as the ultimate goal that both East and West want Burma to have, the two communities are applying different approaches to reach the same goal. At a time when the West applies sanctions to pressure Rangoon back to some sense, the East seems bent on trading with Burma on the calculation that a more prosperous economy would spur political liberalisation.

East is east, and west is west, and never the twain shall meet—this Kipling statement seems to be the case, with Thailand justifying its policy towards Burma.

At a recent Thai-Burmese relations seminar held at Chiang Mai University, Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan had a chance to assert this oriental point of view. Out of their concern for human rights and democratisation, the developed West has frozen political and economic relations with Burma. But the Asian thinking as exemplified by Thailand and perhaps Japan seems to go in the opposite direction. Mr Praphat argued that sanctions and embargoes would only drive Burma back to its hermit-like existence again, which would not be good in these days of increasing global interdependence.

In order to help Burma move towards democracy, the world must integrate Burma into the international community, and persuade it to behave like others do: respect human rights and develop Western-style democracy. Therefore, Mr Praphat said, he deeply regretted that some members of the world community were, through political and economic sanctions, attempting to drive Burma back into the isolation which it has just recently decided to abandon.

"The Thai Government wants a secure, stable Burma as a good neighbour, and believes that trade and investment cooperation will contribute to Burma's economic security, consequently to its political development towards democracy," the deputy foreign minister said.

Thailand benefits from expanding relations with Burma, said National Security Council chief Suwit Sutthanukun, another seminar participant. On the premise of national interests, the Thai policy wants stability in Burma. "The stability of a government and that of a country is different," he said.

Thailand thus professes to promote relations with Burma in every field possible and, in the longer term, to coax Burma into joining ASEAN activities.

"We are not trying to condone its past. But we wish to encourage Burma to develop step by step. Abrupt changes in Burma could only prompt anarchy and disintegration," Mr Suwit said. Citing the changes that have swept across Eastern Europe, Mr Suwit said he is optimistic that nothing can resist democracy. However, Burma has suffered too many wounds. Its glorious past still lingers and more intensely so, the devastation of imperialism. After some time to get over those wounds, democracy will eventually come about in Burma. "If we find the process of political development too slow, we should look at how we can help accelerate it," he said.

On hand to actively respond to the Government's policy towards Burma was the Thai business community. According to Commerce Ministry statistics, the size of bilateral trade with Burma amounted 2,612.1 million baht in the first 11 months of last year. Although this figure constituted a mere 0.25 per cent of Thailand's international trade, it represents a 53.5 per cent expansion compared to the same period of 1988 as a result of Burma opening up its country.

The two neighbours are on the way to finalising a draft memorandum of understanding on border trade, which Burma is pushing for as it has already formalised an agreement on border trade with China. It is estimated that cross-border trading at Tak Province alone involves a cash flow of 1,000 million baht a year.

"The market of Burma must open sooner or later as it cannot carry on the way it has. With the geographical and cultural proximity, Thailand stands in an advantageous position, besides the symbiotic nature where we need raw materials and natural resources, while Burma needs manufactured and consumer products. This suits

the basic principle of trading: mutual benefit," said Prawit Akkarachinoret, president of the Upper North Chamber of Commerce.

With Thailand just across the threshold to Burma, where already other experienced traders from Singapore, South Korea, and Japan have penetrated, why let go of those opportunities?

"The US ban on Burmese products, and those from Thailand manufactured from Burmese raw materials, only goes to show that since they are too far to grab those (trade) opportunities, they (might try to) prevent Thailand from doing so," Mr Prawit claimed.

To enhance the competitive edge of Thai businessmen in Burma, the Thai Government should facilitate trade infrastructure such as transportation facilities for goods flow, and liberalise import-export regulations, Mr Prawit said.

But the heavy economic emphasis in Thailand's Burma policy has invited criticism. "Thailand is helping Burma with an unclean hand," said one veteran Burma watcher. In his opinion, Thailand should take a neutral position towards Burma, and as things stand, Thailand is only exploiting Burma's rich resources and trying to equate such exploitation with (the stated aim of helping Rangoon to promote) democracy.

"Burma must be left to its own devices to settle its own problems. Things are in a mess because there are too many hands involved," he said. At best Thailand can help Burma mediate ethnic conflicts, persuade parties to the conflict to a compromise and lend humanitarian assistance as a show of sincerity to help restore stability in Burma. Thailand can also use its power of persuasion to convince Burma that violence and repression are not getting them anywhere. "But certainly paying the junta for logs, fish and gems is not the way to do it," the commentator said.

Unfortunately, as is the case, the average Burmese are nowhere in sight as beneficiaries under either the Western or Asian approaches. Money from concession fees paid by Thai timber companies falls into the hands of the few elitist groups within Rangoon's ruling junta, and hardly trickles down to the citizenry. On the other side of the coin, the average Burmese have to bear the brunt of the Western economic embargo.

Eight of Nine Border Passes Conditionally Reopen

BK1705020390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 May 90 p 8

[Excerpt] Mae Sot, Tak—Burma yesterday reopened eight of nine border passes on the Moei River between Myawadi and here on condition that no further bombings take place in the Burmese town.

Myint Maung Htun, deputy commander of the 97th Infantry Battalion, said Burmese authorities decided on Tuesday [15 May] to reopen the border passes on condition that no more bombing or sabotage takes place there or else the passes would be closed again.

A bomb exploded at one of the border passes in Myawadi on May 6, prompting Burmese authorities to close down the eight passes for security reasons. They reportedly suspected that the bomb was smuggled from the Thai side.

The reopening of the passes followed assurance by the Thai-Burmese Border Coord..nating Committee which met on May 10 that no such vi lence would happen again and that security clearance would be conducted more strictly.

River pier operators have promised to take responsibility for any death or damage which may be caused by bombs, Maj [major] Myint Maung Htun said. He said the operators have agreed to pay compensation for death or damage while registrations of traders, pier workers, boat owners and operators and consignees of goods will be made to assure security at the border passes.

Thai authorities said that war dogs will be used on the Thai side to help track down saboteurs and more bomb-detection equipment will be used at border passes.

—Two Thai farmers in Tha Song Yang Distict were injured by shrapnel on Tuesday.

Local officials told Task Force 34 that Saengdoen Taobunlu and Ms Luang Khuenmuang, residents of Mae La Thai village, were hit by shrapnel and rushed to a health care unit nearby. The stray shells were from a Karen rebel attack against a Burmese government base in Tikerney camp, opposite Tha Song Yang District. Karen National Union guerrillas withdrew from the skirmish after 20 minutes. [passage omitted]

Delegation Returns from CSFR, Yugoslavia

BK1605014790 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] A seven-member Myanmar [Burmese] delegation headed by Brigadier General Abel, minister of planning and finance and trade, which visited the CSFR and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia at the invitation of the governments concerned, returned to Yangon [Rangoon] by air this evening.

The delegation was welcomed at Yangon airport by Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, minister for energy and mines; Lieutenant General Aung Ye Kyaw, minister for construction and cooperatives; Brigadier General Maung Maung, commander of 502d Air Base; U Ko, director general of the Office of the Cabinet; heads of departments concerned; and responsible officials of the Czechoslovak and Yugoslav Embassies.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Reverses Decision on Talks in Tokyo

OW1705003990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0015 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 17 KYODO—Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk did another about-face Wednesday, reversing an earlier statement and saying he will, after all, travel to Tokyo in June, when the Japanese Government is trying to set up a meeting between him and Cambodian Premier Hun Sen. Sihanouk said he might only grant an "audience" to Hun Sen, and would not sit at the negotiating table with him, though his remarks also appeared to leave that possibility open. The Japanese Government has been trying to arrange talks between the two sides to help resolve the 11-year Cambodian conflict. The talks, set up at the suggestion of Thai Premier Chatchai Chunhawan, are due to take place June 4-6.

Sihanouk, at the prompting of Chatchai, originally said in Bangkok in late April that he would attend the Tokyo meeting although he was pessimistic about its outcome without the presence of two other factions' leaders, including the Khmer Rouge, the largest of the three resistance factions. He changed his mind earlier this month when he said in Beijing before coming to Thailand that he had decided to take a long absence from the political affairs of Cambodia and wanted to devote himself to humanitarian work for the war-ravaged Cambodian people. He also said he wanted to make a trip to Cambodian territory under Phnom Penh's control, but this was rejected as "daydream" by the Phnom Penh government.

In Bangkok on Wednesday, addressing a dinner party at the Foreign Correspondent's Club of Thailand, Sihanouk said he would travel to Tokyo in June but would not sit at the same negotiating table with Hun Sen. He said his alliance leader, Son Sann, Prime Minister of the resistance National Government of Cambodia, will represent the resistance group in the talks. The prince said he would grant Hun Sen an "audience" if the Phnom Penh leader writes him "a polite requesting letter." Sihanouk also said he might change his mind again—apparently meaning he might participate in the actual negotiations—if he was to be asked personally by Thai Deputy Premier Chawalit Yongchaiyut, who he named in his speech as the potential key person to obtain peace for Cambodia, due to the trust and respect he has from all four warring factions.

"Don't blame me of (sic) changing my mind again. But I want to give a gift to the deputy Thai premier, not all of you," the prince said in response to a question on his real intention at the Tokyo meeting. The prince's remarks were interpreted by observers as indicating that he is ready to meet Hun Sen on his own terms. Chawalit is to meet with Sihanouk on Thursday and is expected to ask him to go ahead with the original plan of the Tokyo meeting, an aide to Chawalit said.

Asks Chawalit To Mediate

BK1705022590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 May 90 p 2

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk urged Deputy Prime Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday to try to reconcile the Vietnam-backed Phnom Penh regime and the China-backed Khmer Rouge to bring an end to the Cambodian conflict. In a prepared speech at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Thailand, Sihanouk said such an "honourable political compromise" between the two main rivals was important. He pledged his advance support for Chawalit's future efforts to bring peace to Cambodia.

Sihanouk said he would go to Tokyo on June 4-6 but would not participate in the peace talks with Premier Hun Sen of Phnom Penh. The prince said he had designated Son Sann, the leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, to lead the negotiating team in Tokyo. Sihanouk said he would meet Hun Sen only if the Phnom Penh premier writes a "polite letter" to ask for a courtesy visit with him. Sihanouk met with Hun Sen during the first two informal talks in Jakarta two years ago.

The prince also said he would discuss today ways of ending the 11-year Cambodian conflict with Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, whom he described as a "great leader and patriot." He said the meeting with the Khmer Rouge leader was very important because the Khmer Rouge were "hard-working people." It was still not known where the talks would take place. Khieu is believed to be in one of the Khmer Rouge headquarters in Cambodian towns opposite Thailand's Trat province.

Sihanouk said he was briefed by Beijing about a recent meeting between China's Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Vietnam's First Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem that was aimed at improving bilateral relations. According to the former monarch, Vietnam agreed to drop its previous insistence on the use of the terms "genocide and genocidal" in describing the Khmer Rouge regime and its actions in any future negotiations to settle the Cambodian conflict.

Indochina Summit Set Before Tokyo Peace Talks

OW1705094090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0813 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 17 KYODO—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen will visit Hanoi next week for talks with his Vietnamese and Laotian counterparts on the Cambodian problem before his trip to Tokyo early next month for a new round of peace negotiations, informed sources here said Thursday. Their meeting is aimed at working out a strategy on the Tokyo peace talks, one of the sources said.

Hun Sen, who is also foreign minister, will leave for Hanoi on Monday, according to the sources. Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach is expected to return

home Sunday after a trip to Europe. The sources said Laotian Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihan and Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut are already in Hanoi to attend ceremonies marking the centennial of Vietnamese communist leader Ho Chi Minh's birth.

The Tokyo peace negotiations, proposed by Japan at the suggestion of Thailand, are tentatively set for the first week of June, three months after the breakup of previous peace talks held in Jakarta. Hun Sen has said he will attend the Tokyo talks, and resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, in yet another about-face, told reporters in Bangkok on Wednesday that he will go to Tokyo and is ready to meet Hun Sen. Sihanouk last week said he will not attend the peace talks, and announced his resignation as leader of the resistance movement which has been fighting for eight years to topple the Phnom Penh government.

Diplomatic sources in Bangkok said it is certain that a Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting can be arranged. Referring to Sihanouk's decision to go to Tokyo, a Cambodian Foreign Ministry spokesman said they had expcted the former monarch to change his mind as he did many times in the past. "We are not surprised to hear that Sihanouk is now ready to go to Tokyo," the spokesman said.

Foreign Affairs Spokesman on Solomon's Remarks

BK1705060990 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0419 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 17 May (SPK)—The spokesman of the State of Cambodia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the statement made in Bangkok recently by Richard Solomon, assistant secretary of state of the United States, alleging that thousands of Vietnamese combatants still remain in Cambodia and that the Phnom Penh regime remains weak.

In his statement issued on Wednesday [16 May], the spokesman said that this speculation of the U.S. official clearly shows that the U.S. Administration deliberately closes its eyes to the reality in Cambodia.

It is public knowledge, the statement says, that the governments of the State of Cambodia and of the SRV pulled out all Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia at the end of September 1989, or 15 months ahead of schedule. After this total withdrawal, which was witnessed by hundreds of foreign journalists and observers and especially after their stinging defeats along the Cambodian-Thai border, the three Cambodian opposition factions, especially the Khmer Rouge, have shamelessly trumpeted the so-called "presence of Vietnamese combatants in Cambodia" to cover up their own setbacks and mislead world opinion.

It should be recalled that at the Paris conference, in order to prevent any confusion about the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, the party of the State of Cambodia put forward a proposal on the dispatch of a fact-finding mission to study the real situation in Cambodia, particularly to observe the repatriation of Vietnamese troops. However, the three Cambodian opposition groups were opposed to the proposal out of fear that the international community would know the truth. At that time, our party greeted the role of the United Nations in the control of the withdrawal of foreign troops from Cambodia. Therefore, there is no longer any problem of the presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia. Moreover, the government of the State of Cambodia has adhered to the constructive initiative of Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan on the cease-fire, the cessation of all military aid to the conflicting Cambodian factions, and the international control on the implementation of all agreements reached.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs expresses its deep regret regarding the ill-will statement of that high-ranking U.S. official who professes to be worried about the genocidal Khmer Rouge regime's return to power in Cambodia but who, in reality, throws himself voluntarily behind the Khmer Rouge.

Cambodia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs totally rejects that speculative accusation by the U.S. official.

Official Says Moscow To Honor Obligations

BK1705110490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1059 GMT 17 May 90

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh, May 17 (AFP)—Moscow will honour its obligations under a five-year military aid agreement with Cambodia which ends this year, a Soviet official said here Thursday [17 May]. "We have a five year agreement. It is not cancelled so we have obligations, but if other countries are ready we can have a moratorium," said the official, who asked not to be named.

He was referring to the Soviet Union's proposal for a moratorium on military aid to the warring parties in the Cambodian conflict which pits the Phnom Penh government against the Chinese and Western backed tripartite resistance movement. He said that by proposing the moratorium Moscow was "not saying that it is not supplying" military aid, but he refused to confirm or deny that such aid was shall being provided. He said that he did not know how much the military aid was worth or what it consisted of under the five-year deal. Soviet military aid is usually off-loaded at the deep water port of Kompong Som in southern Cambodia.

It was not clear if the Soviet Union was negotiating a new five-year military aid package amid expectations that its overall foreign aid budget must be cut back in the interests of domestic economic needs. A Soviet State Planning Committee delegation was scheduled to visit Cambodia for talks on a new five-year general aid pact, the official said. But the visit has been postponed more than once because the domestic situation was not clear and Soviet officials were still trying to work out what they could offer, he added.

Moscow currently provides Cambodia with large annual credits for buying Soviet goods, especially oil but also including machinery, vehicles, minerals and consumer goods. Cambodia sells the Soviet Union in return mainly primary materials such as rubber and timber but according to Soviet press reports the government here now owes Moscow some 715 million rubles (433 million U.S. dollars). Moscow also provides technical assistance, and military advisors have been helping to train the Cambodian Armed Forces but they do not take part in operations, the official said. "Any sovereign country has the right to invite military advisors from other countries," he said, adding that he had not seen and did not know if Vietnamese military advisors were in Cambodia. [passage omitted]

Heng Samrin Speaks on 'Overall Situation'

BK1705105590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 16 May 90

[Speech by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the State of Cambodia, at 14 May inaugural ceremony for a junior high school in Ponhea Krek District, Kompong Cham Province—recorded]

[Summary From Poor Reception] I am very glad to meet the people and venerable buddhist monks of Ponhea Krek District. On behalf of the party Central Committee and the Council of State, I deeply thank everybody involved in the construction of this school.

"Dear compatriots: This junior high school is one of the many achievements recorded by the district in education and other fields." My thanks and congratulations to all party, administrative, and front leaders for your hard work in the localities and contributions to the development and defense of the motherland. "I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to inform my compatriots of the overall situation in the country. It is as follows:

"After the withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer troops, the enemy launched attacks on our positions in an attempt to seize Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, and Siem Reap Provinces. The enemy boasted that he would soon capture Phnom Penh and the rest of the country. As part of this scheme, the lesser forces of Sihanouk and Son Sann joined the stronger Polpotist Khmer Rouge in attacking and capturing a number of our positions along the Cambodian-Thai border." The struggle between us and the enemy at that time was most arduous, complex, and resolute. It was a hard time for us because we had to take charge of everything ourselves after the Vietnamese troops had pulled out of the country.

"However, thanks to our own efforts and since our cause was a just one—that is, to prevent the return of the genocidal regime—the regular, regional, militia, and police forces, the cadres and combatants, and the people combined to create a great and powerful force to counter the enemy and frustrated all his maneuvers." Even without the presence of Vietnamese volunteer troops over the past months, our forces have advanced steadily and developed themselves in actual fighting.

Through the struggle waged during the past dry season, we can see more clearly the strengths of our Armed Forces to assume our own national defense. We can also see the weaknesses of the enemy. They do not have enough arms and munitions, medicine and food supplies, and they lack support bases inside the country and do not enjoy the support of the people. Our successes in the past months have enabled us to make the following conclusions: Our cadres and combatants dearly love the country. No one supports the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. The enemy still nurtures the illusion of toppling us through military means to avenge their shameful defeats and for personal gains. The State of Cambodia is the sole force capable of preventing the return of genocidal Pol Pot regime.

At this stage in which our own forces have to take charge of national defense, in spite of some initial difficulties, we have managed to restore the situation. Our forces have grown and gained many experiences in the national defense field. They are advancing to total victory in the future.

"Venerable monks, dear compatriots, in order to grasp the significance of the overall situation of the country, we must remember our condition in the beginning when we had to start from scratch and suffered hardship because of the consequences of the Pol Pot regime. Only by examining the maneuvers and ambitions of the enemy, especially following the Vietnamese troop pullout, can we grasp the meaning of our victories in the past dry season.

"During this rainy season as well as in the future, the enemy's strategy is not going to change. His tactics and maneuvers might take many other forms. Certainly, with the failure of his attempt to control the strip of territory along the border, he will work hard to send more arms, munitions, and forces into the interior while more actively conducting psychological warfare by spreading misleading rumors to distort reality.

"Consequently, each of us must continue to develop the victories during the past dry season both at the front and at the rear. We must accelerate the joint movement of the entire people and the Armed Forces and contribute to attacking the enemy, flushing out hidden enemy agents, proselytizing misled people, and supporting the battlefront.

"Everyone must contribute to the defense of villages, districts, provinces, grass-roots units, rice fields, crops, forests, rubber plantations, and the border as well as the entire motherland. The slogan 'Everything for the battlefields' should be implemented. 'Everyone must observe the three do nots and one report code of action, and participate in ensuring the security of the villages, districts, and grass-roots units [words indistinct].' If the

enemy enters and conduct activities in our localities, the consequences would befall those who live there.

"One more important thing is we must participate in building the Armed Forces in order to create all possibilities and capabilities to prevent the re-emergence of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. [passage indistinct]" Cadres and combatants, including those in the ranks of the party, authorities, mass organizations, the Armed Forces, police forces, and militia forces must take care of and serve the people. They must respect and love the people.

"They must be strict as true Armed Forces and authorities of the people. They must do everything to enhance the confidence of the people in themselves and in our new regime and must refrain from doing anything that might affect the faith of the people in the party, state, and our new regime.

"On this same occasion, I would like to tell you that I am happy to meet with all of you, representatives of cadres, workers, and personnel of the rubber plantations present here." I urge all of you to continue supporting the construction of schools and contributing to defending and building Kompong Cham into a strong rear-guard province.

"Cadres of the party and administration at all levels must continue implementing all liberalization policies. If there are any problems, or any obstacles [words indistinct], they must with the people solve them harmoniously and intelligently. Whether these issues can or cannot be solved, everyone should be allowed to know. Avoid unreasonable rivalry and infighting. What is most important is that all must join hands in working, increasing production, solving everyday problems, and conducting all kinds of enterprises that would contribute to economic development. In particular, as far as education and the public health are concerned, I appeal to all to continue upholding the tradition in which people provide assistance to the state so these sectors can be promoted to the point of meeting popular demands in schools and hospitals, thus helping to ensure good education and health for our people."

Chea Sim Meets With New Afghan Ambassador

BK1705063190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] On the morning of 15 May at the National Assembly office, Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of both the National Assembly and the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense National Council, granted an audience to Comrade Muhammad Isma'il Mahshuk, Afghanistan's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Cambodia.

On the occasion, Comrade Chea Sim briefed his guest on the developments of the situation in Cambodia as well as the willingness of the Cambodian party and government to end the bloody war in order to restore peace to the people. He added, however, that the Cambodians of the other side remained adamant in their attempt to return the genocidal Pol Pot clique to Cambodia and continued to hamper peace negotiations on Cambodia. On the relations between Cambodia and Afghanistan, the Cambodian host pointed out: Although our two countries are far from each other, the Cambodian people always stand up for the struggle of the Afghan people.

In his reply, Comrade Muhammad Isma'il Mahshuk told Comrade Chea Sim about the current situation in Afghanistan where the Pakistani authorities continued to ruin Afghanistan's development and the Afghan people's lives and aspiration for peace. He pledged that the Afghan party, government, and people will do their utmost to further consolidate and expand the relations between our two countries and peoples in order to promote peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and the world.

Philippines

Military Rebels Threaten Offensives Against Bases

HK1605052390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 16 May 90 pp 1, 6

[Text] Military rebels threatened to mount offensives against the U.S. military bases to force American troops to leave the country if the United States does not abide by the constitutional provision ending the bases agreement in 1991.

Leaders of the clandestine Young Officers Union (YOU) revealed their plan in an interview with a group of reporters on Sunday and Monday. The YOU officers, interviewed in a beach house at a resort south of Manila, were composed of a major in Army's Scout Rangers Group, a PC [Philippine Constabulary] captain, and an Army lieutenant attached to the First Scout Rangers. They served as operations officers during the December coup. The rebel officers were accompanied by four other sectoral political leaders from the newly formed Democratic Front for Filipinism.

Asked if the group was prepared to operate against the bases if the Americans refused to vacate the bases after the agreement expired in 1991, a young officer who introduced himself as Capt. Emilio Natividad said: "Hindi lang kami ang gagawa noon. Tayo (All of us will do it). We do the fighting, you provide the moral support."

The three officers said, however, that they carry the alias of Carlos Maglalang, when they issue political statements to the press.

Natividad said the YOU, which is composed of company grade officers with ranks of major down, would duplicate what the Vietnamese guerrillas did to the American troops during the Vietnam War. "The Vietnamese did it. We were once the strongest in this part of the world."

said Natividad, who said he was a former commander in the Regional Special Action Force (RSAF) If the United States invades the Philippines, said Gregorio Jacinto, a cadre organizing workers in Metro Manila, mas magiging klaro ang national liberation way [the goal of the national liberation war would be highlighted]."

Natividad said the YOU was prepared for war with the United States if the later invaded the Philippines. Kung hindi natin makuha sa diplomatic process (If we cannot get it through the diplomatic process) there must be some other ways."

He said the next step is up to the Americans because "hindi naman tayo naghahamon ng giyera [we do not want war]. The group is not a war freak," Natividad said.

Natividad said he believes the United States will reject the Philippines' notice of termination of the bases. (At the time of interview the Philippine panel had not yet served the notice of termination). But he said the YOU had already served its own notice. "We have not reneged on our responsibility, which is to serve notice of termination. Ang assumption mo diyan bakit nagi-exploratory talks kung determinada ka na i-terminate (Why have exploratory talks if you are determined to terminate the lease)?" If the United States persists in staying despite the notice, the YOU will move to dismantle the bases in concert with the people, he said.

"The question is already beyond the province of the military. Kaya lang nagiging (It's just a) military issue 'yan [that] is because of the bases themselves. Now, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] is supposed to protect the people."

Asked how a nationalist force has developed within the military organization, Maj. Daniel del Pilar, one of the YOU officers, said they acquired this orientation from the field, having been exposed to the poverty in the countryside. "Basically, when it comes to socio-economic problems, the soldiers could feel the brunt of the problem itself. And most of the time, local officials would not even go to remote barangays," said Del Pilar, whom reporters learned was involved in the Makati takeover during the December coup. "There are generals who do not know what's happening in the countryside," he said.

Security Around Clark, Subic Bases Stepped Up

HK1605134190 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Security inside and outside Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base has been stepped up. Marines and sailors living outside the bases have been temporarily accommodated in military barracks inside the Subic base. Americans based in other countries were also banned from visiting the Philippines. It is reported that hotels in Angeles and Olongapo have been losing about one million pesos a day because of the transfer to the bases of American soldiers.

Meanwhile, the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People demanded the closure of the U.S. bases in the country. In a statement relayed to news agencies, the group said the Philippines needs total independence for its own interest and safety.

Salvador Laurel Says U.S. Bases Will Remain

HK1705105390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Vice President Salvador H. Laurel has issued a statement saying that the U.S. military bases will remain and that it is in accordance with the Aquino government's wishes. Laurel told Liberty in Action that he received reports claiming that the statement of 1,500 mayors nationwide supporting the bases retention is Malacanang's ploy.

[Begin Laurel recording] The 1,500 mayors who signed the statement would not have signed freely if they were not urged by Malacanang. Malacanang probably requested them to do so. Thus Mrs. Aquino will have a reason to agree with the retention of the military bases. Earlier she said she is against it. On December 26, 1984, when she was not yet president, she signed a document with Senators Diokno and Tanada. She pledged that she would not agree to retain the military bases and favored their immediate withrawal. Now she is probably looking for a way to avoid the commitment because it is really an agreement. [end recording]

Various Groups Comment on Termination Notice

HK1705060790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 17 May 90 pp 1, 3

[By Manny Mogato, Booma Cruz and Julie Javellana]

[Text] The government's decision to serve a notice of termination on its 43-year old military bases treaty with the U.S. met with a generally favourable reaction from both the military and military groups. "This is a good development. It was a momentous thing," Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said of the Government's note verbale sent to the U.S. on Tuesday, declaring that the 1947 Military Bases Agreement will expire on September 16 next year. Organized labor had mixed reactions. The Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) supported the decision while the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) [1 May Movement] belittled it.

According to Ramos, it was a "good move since it clarified a lot of things in the minds of a lot of people." The defense secretary, who favors a gradual five-to-eight-year phaseout of the bases, said he was "supporting the Government's move."

Democrito Mendoza, TUCP president, said "the act provides the Government the proper perspectives in examining its options on the future of the U.S. bases during the exploratory talks." He added that the notice was a clear signal that Government would allow the bases to stay beyond 1991 only if a new treaty, ratified by

the Senate or approved in a plebiscite, was based on the mutual interests of the Philippines and the United States.

But KMU said the notice of termination did not guarantee the dismantling of the bases. Nick Elman, KMU spokkesman, argued that the bases' tenure could be extended by another treaty. *"Kung genuine ang intention ng government to serve the notice of termination, dapat sundan kaagad ito ng paglalansag ng base militar."* [If the government has a genuine intention to serve the notice of termination, it should immediately dismantle the military bases] he said.

The communist National Democratic Front issued a statement offering a unilateral ceasefire in its insurgency if the Aquino government disallowed foreign military installations and personnel in the Philippines. Its statement was described as "most welcome" by Loretta Ann Rosales, President of the Bagong Alyansun Makabayan (Bayan) [New Nationalist Alliance]. Riosales said "we are supportive of any move that would lead to the removal of the U.S. bases and to peace."

A Church-based group, the Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace, said the notice "comes as a surprise but nonetheless, a welcome one." It added that "while it was an unexpected move, it was totally within the dictates of our Constitution."

Congressman on Possible Behind Scene Treaty

HK1705094590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 May 90

[By Jennifer Postigo; italicized portion in English]

[Text] There is a great possibility that the serving of notice of termination of the bases to the American panel headed by Special Envoy Richard Armitage by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus was a mere gimmick or bluff. Congressman Salvador Escudero said this, adding that there is already an impression in Washington that an agreeement has been forged behind the scene by the two parties which was possibly a phaseout of the U.S. military facilities in the country within five to 10 years. According to Congressman Escudero:

[Begin recording] [Escudero] *The impression in Washington is that there is already an agreement behind the scene, of a phaseout of five to 10 years.*

[Reporter] *I wish that there's proof.*

[Escudero] *Yes. That's the... (changes thought) I'm waiting for a fax copy of an article in Washington saying that there is already a behind the scene, well at least maybe this time I'll agree with the bishops, that the issuance of the notice of termination was a bluff.* [end recording]

Senator on U.S. Stand's Effect on Public Opinion

HK1705051590 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Senator Wigberto Tanada said that the United States' tough stand on the termination of the military bases agreement and the aid shortfall would make the public more aware that the U.S. bases should leave the country.

[Begin Tanada recording] I think this will further make the people more aware of the issue, especially those who are still doubtful. I hope they will support our stand. You know, there are many Filipinos from various organizations who have decided that the only way to peace, independence, and security is the dismantling of the U.S. bases. [end recording]

Bases Panels Form Technical Committee

HK1705044190 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0230 GMT 17 May 90

[Tanny Rodriguez reports from "Malacanang Information Service"; in English]

[Text] The Philippine and United States panels on the bases exploratory talks yesterday formed a technical committee to thresh out differences between the U.S. and the Philippines on the matter of the U.S. shortfall in aid commitments to the Philippines. In a press conference given by the panel spokesman at the Philippine International Convention Center, Under Secretary Rafael Alunan III, the spokesman of the Philippine panel, said that the panel stood firm in its position that the United States has incurred a $222.58 million shortfall in its aid commitment. This commitment, covered in the 1988 Manglapus-Shultz agreement, states that the Philippines will receive a total of $962 million in a bases compensation package. On the other hand, Stanley Schrager, spokesman of the U.S. panel, stressed the U.S. had fulfilled its commitment to the Philippines. The technical committee to be composed of members of both panels will present its findings and resolutions today, the fourth day of the bases exploratory talks.

In the meantime, Secretary Raul Manglapus, chairman of the Philippine panel, and Richard Armitage, U.S. chief negotiator, suspended the bases talks' afternoon session and attended the memorial service for the two U.S. servicemen killed outside Clark Air Base last week.

While admitting that the panels have not reached any common ground regarding the U.S. shortfall, both spokesmen expressed hope that they would be able to resolve their differences and move the talks towards other important issues. Alunan reiterated the Philippine position that the U.S. should keep its word and fulfill its aid commitment to the country. He further hinted that failure of the United States to do so could affect the course the exploratory talks could take. He, however, stressed that the Philippines remains open to any proposals from the U.S. in the interest of reconciliation.

Responding to a question, Schrager said that the U.S. has given in the 1988 agreement a best efforts pledge and since then changes have occurred that made it necessary for the U.S. Congress to cut the original amount promised. Schrager referred to the pie of available foreign assistance as remaining the same while the number of bidders, as he called it, for a share in the pie has increased. Referring to the newly democratized countries of Eastern Europe, he also emphasized that the U.S. is not putting a price tag or a dollar value on the relationship of the U.S. with the Philippines. Both panels will meet today to take up the recommendations of the technical committee.

Bases Exploratory Talks Reportedly Collapse

HK1705084790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 May 90

[By Rey Arquiza of Mobile Unit No. 21—italicized portion in English]

[Text] The bases exploratory talks, which started on 14 May, have collapsed. The two panels did not agree on the issue of aid shortfall. In this connection, U.S. chief negotiator Richard Armitage is leaving for Washington tomorrow. According to the U.S. Embassy, he has an important commitment. It is not yet determined when the Philippine and U.S. panel will resume talks. The U.S. Embassay said: *The talks will be reconvened later in the future.*

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus, Philippine panel chief, and Armitage were not able to hold talks this morning because the technical committee assigned to tackle the aid shortfall issue also failed to agree on the matter. Manglapus said the shortfall amounts to $222.58 million and the U.S. panel rejected the statement.

On the second day of the exploratory talks, Manglapus served the notice of termination of the U.S. military bases agreement to Armitage. The U.S. panel questioned the interpretation of the date in the notice. During the three days of talks nothing has been agreed upon in the agenda because the Philippines insists on finishing the discussion of the aid shortfall issue. The scheduled news briefing at 1400 today was cancelled because both panels failed to meet this morning. The technical committee members could not agree on the said issue. Neither is the news briefing at 1800 today certain. If ever it will materialize, the spokespersons of both panels will simply explain the suspension of the exploratory talks.

Official Denies Collapse

HK1705090990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 May 90

[Italicized portions in English]

[Text] We have an official update from the press center regarding the bases exploratory talks from Mr. Meneleo Alunan. He is the assistant of Under Secretary Rafael Alunan, official spokesman of the Philippine panel.

[Begin recording] [Taruc] *Mr. Hernandez, good afternoon.*

[Hernandez] *Good afternoon. Who is this?*

[Taruc] *Joe Taruc, sir.* You are on the air over DZRH. *May we know the update?*

[Hernandez] *You know,* we are receiving reports saying that the exploratory talks have collapsed. This is not true. *And I'm officially issuing a denial. And I would like to let our listeners know that the ongoing exploratory talks are still going on and they are still meeting at this precise time.*

[Taruc] *How true is the report* that the scheduled meeting at 1600 did not push through?

[Hernandez] *That is true, that is true. The press conference scheduled at 2:00 did not materialize because they are still hammering out a lot of points.* They are still discussing things. *However, we are expecting another press conference at about 6:00, more or less, tonight.*

[Taruc] So this is not the *regular press conference that you have been giving?*

[Hernandez] No. It is like this. The scheduled regular conferences are 1400 and 1800. *However in the past few days we have maintained only the 2:00 press conferences. So today we concelled the 2:00 press conference but we are expecting a press conference at 6:00 tonight.*

[Taruc] *At any rate, Mr. Hernandez,* may we know the update?

[Hernandez] *Well, they are still talking.* The technical committee which was formed is still meeting. *That's all that we can say.*

[Taruc] *How true is the report that Mr. Armitage is scheduled to leave for tomorrow?*

[Hernandez] *Well, that is not official yet. Those were his plans. He had plans last week,* he still has other appointments in other countries. *However we still do not have an official confirmation regarding the matter.*

[Taruc] *Okay,* we will expect the official development on the exploratory talks from you, Mr. Hernandez.

[Hernandez] *Okay, Mr. Taruc. Off the air we will give you our phone number.*

[Taruc] *Thank you very much, sir.*

[Hernandez] Thank you also. [end recording]

Aquino, Others on Impasse

HK1705091990 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 17 May 90

[By Gabby Salcedao; italicized portion in English]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino has turned down the plea to release Peasants Movement of the Philippines

leader Jaime Tadeo. We received this reaction after the Department of Justice said that Tadeo can only be freed through a presidential pardon.

In this connection, the president also rejected Vice President Salvador Laurel's appeal to grant amnesty to all rebel soldiers involved in the past coup attempts on condition that they will no longer continue with their destabilization plans through violence.

Mrs. Aquino also reacted to the deadlock yesterday in the ongoing bases exploratory talks, concretely on the aid shortfall.

The president replies to the above issues through Press Undersecretary Horacio Paredes:

[Begin recording] *The talks are going on. It is too early to say that the panels have failed to settle any issue or that there is an impasse. The Philippine panel will advise the public of developments in the talks from time to time through its spokesman Mr Rafael Alunan.*

Extension of a pardon of one convicted of a crime involving misappropriation and grave abuse of confidence, who has barely commenced service of his sentence is contrary to established policies.

It appears untimely to talk about amnesties for military personnel implicated in the past coup attempts when the Davide Commission has not finished with its investigation. The period of national emergency declared by Congress has not yet expired and many of the top leaders are still at large. [end recording]

Senators on Reported Collapse

HK1705095790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 May 90

[By Cesar Chavez of Mobile Unit No. 9; italicized portions in English]

[Text] The senators have reacted to the reported collapse of the bases exploratory talks. Here is Senator John Osmena:

[Begin recording] *The U.S. bases in the Philippines, the military bases in the Philippines are facilities being used by the United States for their own interests, for their needs. There is no such thing as mutuality.* We do not have interests like the Persian Gulf or the Middle East that we have to protect. If they want to remain, they have to pay us. If they do not want to pay, if they do not have the money, it is their decision. But we have already told them that the agreement will end on 16 September 1991. Now they will have to tell us if they want to remain or not. [end recording]

Senator Neptali Gonzales, leader of the Struggle for Philippine Democrats, gives his reaction:

[Begin Gonzales recording] *It is true that the United States does not really need the Philippine bases. There seems to be no reason why the Philippines should continue in the talks about the retention of the U.S. bases here in the Philippines. Well, it would appear that we are now the ones more interested than the United States in the bases retention which, in my mind, is not our view.* [end recording]

Among the senators, Senator Joseph Estrada issues the strongest reaction:

[Begin recording] They are really swindlers. In all the contracts we made with the Americans, we are always the underdog. It is time for our leaders to realize the incidents in the past. [end recording]

Editorial on Inevitability of Bases Pullout

HK1705060190 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 17 May 90 p 4

[Editorial: "U.S. Pullout Inevitable?"]

[Text] We have reached the point where, when the law is obeyed, or its requirements otherwise fulfilled, the event becomes frontpage material. Thus, when the Manglapus panel served notice on its American counterpart that the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement ends on September 16, 1991, most people were stunned.

Could it be that the Aquino Administration has finally mustered enough political will to stand up to Washington and assert the nation's sovereignty as defined by the 48 men and women who drew up the 1987 Constitution? Are the U.S. and the Philippines entering a *qualitatively* new stage in nearly a century of "special relations"? Will we finally see the dismantling of Clark Air Base, Subic Bay Naval Station and all the other U.S. military facilities in our country? Is this to be the high point of the Decade of Nationalism, which President Aquino launched two years ago?

The Manglapus panel's gesture earned bipartisan commendation in the Senate. In the House, where the reactionary elements are less guarded in showing their true colors, the reactions were mixed. But for the rest of the nation, the notice of termination was one of those extremely rare times when it felt good to be Filipino—having put a mighty super-power in its place. It might ultimately turn out to be a fleeting moment, but the initial thrill from asserting our right to be the master in our own house will undoubtedly spur the nation to finally begin to regard itself as an independent entity.

By the same token, the Aquino Administration would only be inviting political disaster if it fails to bring the notice of termination to its logical conclusion. The most militant and politically active sectors of the populace will be mightily indignant if it is later revealed that the Manglapus panel's gesture is a mere ruse to extract nothing more than additional financial concessions from Washington.

Yet, that seems to be the direction of the exploratory talks. This despite the fact that countless U.S. officials

have made it clear beyond doubt that Washington is in no fiscal position to pay more money for the privilege of maintaining military facilities here. But then again that could be precisely what our negotiators are trying to prove, not just to their U.S. counterparts but, more important, to those Filipinos who continue to think that their country's sovereignty is negotiable.

Time was when Filipinos who demanded the removal of the U.S. bases were pictured, at best, as wishful thinkers. However, with the historic change in superpower relations, Washington's continuing inability to balance its federal budget and other factors, it now appears that those Filipinos were, in fact, prescient.

Business might have been fantastically good for those few Filipinos who benefited economically from the bases. But the Yankee cornucopia is finally showing signs of exhaustion.

Wearing thin too is the U.S. commitment to militarily maintain stability in our part of the world. Americans have begun to realize that while they were footing the bill and exposing their young men and women to the hazards of keeping the region safe to do business in, their own economy was being undercut by those very same East Asian countries that prospered under America's military aegis. Toyotas, not T-72 tanks, constitute the clear and present danger to America's well-being and preeminence in the world.

As a footnote, it is therefore not only criminal and provocative but also unnecessary for the NPA to target innocent U.S. servicemen in its campaign to remove the bases. The momentum of history is accelerating rapidly toward an American military pullout. The thing to do is to prepare ourselves for the temporary economic difficulties it is bound to cause.

Termination Notice Said To Mean 'Nothing'

HK1605053590 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 16 May 90 p 10

["Turn of Events" column by Francisco S. Tatad: "What the Notice of Termination Means"]

[Text] In an unexpected move, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus yesterday served formal notice on the U.S. government that the 1947 RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. military bases agreement expires on September 16, 1991. At once a number of leading lights of the anti-bases movement applauded it. The spokesman of the Philippine panel, Mr. Rafael Alunan, was exuberant. "Today marks a historic moment for all Filipinos,"she said. "We have taken the first step in terminating an agreement that was executed in 1947 during the days of lingering U.S. colonialism in the Philippines. This morning's action of the Philippine panel signals to the nation a resolve to start a new and truly independent course in which all dealings with foreign governments shall uphold the dignity and sovereignty of the Philippines."

The prose was understandable. It showed the panel spokesman admiring the panel's own handiwork. But for us it is too soon to be enthralled. The notice of termination means nothing in itself; it acquires meaning only in relation to what ultimately follows it. As the U.S. panel in the present talks correctly puts it, it does not preclude signing a new agreement.

If the notice was intended to tell the Americans, "you are getting out," then the anti-bases movement has every reason to cheer and the probases camp every reason to march in the streets. Several demonstrators had been bodily prevented from serving such notice to the U.S. embassy; others had been beaten or arrested by the police trying to serve the same notice to the U.S. Air Force at Clark Air Base.

With the notice of termination finally served, Senator Wigberto Tanada now thinks, "we are telling them to go. I hope they get the message." Yet they will get the message only if that indeed is the message. But the message could be something else. Perhaps it is something else.

Indeed the notice may have been served so that a new agreement could be quickly negotiated. If that in fact was the intent, then all celebration by the anti-bases camp is premature and unfounded. It is the pro-bases elements that have a right to celebrate.

In serving the notice of termination Manglapus referred to two documents as the basis of his act. These are the Ramos-Rusk exchange of notes of September 16, 1966, and the 1987 Constitution. The Ramos-Rusk agreement provides:

"Unless terminated earlier by mutual agreement of the two governments, this Agreement and agreed revisions thereof shall remain in force for a period of 25 years from September 16, 1966 after which, unless extended for a longer period by mutual agreement, it shall become subject to termination upon one year's notice by either government."

The Constitution on the other hand provides:

"After the expiration in 1991 of the Agreement between the Republic of the Philippines and the United States of America concerning Military Bases, foreign military bases, troops, or facilities shall not be allowed in the Philippines except under a treaty duly concurred in by the Senate and, when the Congress so requires, ratified by a majority of the votes cast by the people in a national referendum held for that purpose, and recognized as a treaty by the other contracting party."

As is clear from the above, the Constitution assumes (rather than mandates) that the 1947 agreement "expires in 1991" (no month or day) and requires no one-year

notice prior to that date. It would seem that the constitutional provision is itself the notice. It is the Ramos-Rusk agreement that requires notice of termination to be served one year prior to actual termination of the agreement.

Now under the Ramos-Rusk amendment, the military bases agreement does not expire in 1991, but may be terminated by either of the parties on one year's notice, from September 16, 1990. If the government follows this provision, then it cannot serve a valid notice of termination before September 16, 1991. The U.S. would be justified in questioning the propriety and correctness of the notice served by Manglapus, should it decide to question it.

But, as we had repeatedly pointed out in this column, the U.S. will question it only if the Philippine government has no intention of negotiating a new agreement. In which case, it would say that while the 1987 Constitution binds the Aquino government, it does not bind the U.S.; that Mrs. Aquino will have to honor the terms of the Ramos-Rusk agreement, otherwise face sanctions from the U.S. Notice then may not be served until September 16, 1991, and the agreement itself may not be terminated until September 16, 1992. Since the Aquino government's term ends on June 30, 1992, Mrs. Aquino would already be out of power when the U.S. negotiates and signs a new agreement with the succeeding government.

The Aquino government is no doubt aware of this possibility and will do everything to prevent it from coming to pass. This would help explain why despite the official posturing at the Central Bank talks, Malacanang is busy trying to manufacture public support for the retention of the bases. If there was any attempt to hide this, the unusual convention of mayors at PICC [Philippine International Convention Center], which coincided with the exploratory talks, unmasked it. Convened at the insistence of Malacanang, the mayors were asked in an informal survey inside the hall their opinion on the bases. The results showed more opposition to than support for a new agreement. But after some floor maneuvers, the convention unanimously adopted the resolution urging retention of what the resolution described as "U.S. military bases."

Ironically, while Malacanang was trying to manufacture public opinion which would ultimately allow Manglapus to tell his counterpart, Mr. Richard Armitage, that Mrs. Aquino would favor working on a new agreement, a resolution was being filed by Senator Alberto Romulo in the Senate proposing that Congress constitute itself as a constituent assembly for the purpose of amending the Constitution in order to advance to the second Monday of July 1990 the elections for President, Vice President and the members of Congress. That's less than two months from now.

It does not seem to have much prospect of passing Congress. But it seems to send one more signal to the Aquino government that in case the notice of termination proves to be a real notice of expulsion of the American presence, there are constitutional ways of dealing with it and those who are behind it. Of course, there is another interpretation. Some have suggested that by advancing the 1992 elections, Mrs. Aquino would catch everyone off-balance, snd with the Americans helping her rig the process, she could be "elected" finally, to serve for yet another six years. We should see which is the relevant theory in the days ahead.

Editorial Profiles Armitage, Ties to Scandals

HK1705061790 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 17 May 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Getting To Know the Man Who Speaks for America"]

[Text] It is said that to gain the upperhand in negotiations, one must know as much as possible about the person across the table.

Richard Armitage, the former U.S. Asst. Secretary of Defense for international security affairs plucked from private life by President George Bush to head the American panel in the exploratory talks on the bases agreement, is something of a mystery to most Filipinos. Until recently, his was but one of the many names that cropped up periodically in reports emanating from Washington quoting so-called experts on Pacific and Asian affairs.

Indeed, as a recently-concluded series by INQUIRER columnist Fr. Shay Cullen details, Armitage has spent the better part of his military and government career in Southeast Asia, serving four tours in Vietnam.

But it seems Armitage was doing more than just soaking in the sun. Fr. Cullen's series delves into Armitage's training and involvement in American covert operations in the Indochinese theater and claims the American had links to such questionable (and illegal) activities as mass assassination, heroin-smuggling, and laundering of profits amassed from drug operations.

Armitage was most recently linked to the Iran-Contra scandal, and Cullen cites a report of the Tower Commission looking into the arms-for-hostages swap that said Armitage secretly met with Menachem Meron, an Israeli official, to discuss the sale of American arms to Iran.

Nominated by Bush last year as Secretary of the Army, Armitage asked that his name be withdrawn, leading to speculation that he may have wanted to avoid going through a confirmation hearing where his past would be dug up. That has not prevented Bush, however, from appointing Armitage to positions that do not require Senate confirmation, such as that of chief negotiator on the bases.

Certainly it would be helpful for the members of the Philippine panel, as well as the Filipino public, to be aware of Armitage's background, politics and skills.

Government officials, President Aquino among them, may already have a notion of Armitage's negotiating strategy, since he is said to have played a major role in policy-making in the Reagan administration, especially in dealing with the Philippine government (and presumably the opposition) in the shaky period leading up to Marcos' downfall in 1986.

His hawkish tendencies and virulent anti-communism was also made evident in 1987, when he testified before a U.S. congressional subcommittee that the Aquino government had failed to develop a comprehensive counterinsurgency program and that military advice on how to fight the rebels was being ignored. President Aquino was said to be "irked" by Armitage's remarks, but a few days later, in an address before PMA [Philippine Military Academy] graduates, she announced the abandonment of peace initiatives and her resolve to seek a military victory over the insurgents. Armitage was quick to praise Ms. Aquino's new resolve, saying he found her remarks "right on the mark."

Obviously, Armitage is also quite adept at wielding the "carrot-and-stick" to get the Philippine government to do America's bidding.

Fr. Cullen says the question that will "haunt the minds of many Filipinos" is" Is Richard Armitage a man to be trusted and believed?

Our reply to that would be: only as far as the government he represents can be trusted and believed.

Filipinos would do well to ask themselves what hidden message and motives lie behind President Bush's choice of a man of Armitage's background, beliefs and loyalties to lead the American side in talks that would determine the nature of Philippine-American relations well into the next century.

Editorial Views Killing of U.S. Airmen

HK1605130990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 15 May 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Killings weaken RP (Republic of the Philippines) hand in bases negotiations"]

[Text] Loud and clear was the message sent by the killing of American servicemen John Raven and James Green Sunday night on the eve of the start of exploratory talks between the Philippine and U.S. governments on whether to enter into formal negotiations when the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement expires next year.

Though no group has yet claimed responsibility for the shooting of the Americans in Dau, Pampanga near Clark air base, most observers say the operation fits the pattern set by previous killings carried out by the communist New People's Army [NPA] Sparrow Unit which carries out political assassinations.

The murder of Raven and Green also came only nine days after another GI, Marine Gunnery Sgt. John Fredette, was shot dead near Subic naval base in Olongapo. The rebels are also suspected of carrying out the Fredette killing, although the NPA has reportedly denied responsibility for his death. Police have arrested two alleged drug addicts, one of whom confessed to being the gunman, but the government's case is considered weak.

Raven and Green bring to 15 the number of insurgency-related deaths of Americans here since 1974, of whom 13 were slain in ambushes or shot by assassins near U.S. military facilities. The other two were civilians killed in clashes with rebels.

The Dau shooting raises the stakes in the ongoing bases talks and casts a shadow over the proceedings. It tells Americans that if they cannot be compelled to leave the bases, and the Philippines, through formal negotiations, then they shall be forced out by a bloody campaign targetted exclusively at them.

At first glance, the threat to Americans' physical safety here would seem to strengthen the Filipino negotiators' hand, whose American counterparts would presumably be dealing with them "under the gun." But the killings of Americans only serve to weaken the Philippine position in the long run.

The shootings reinforce the growing perception of the country as a land of lawlessness and random violence. Indeed, American officials are said to be considering giving diplomats and other government personnel assigned here hazard pay, which would place the Philippines in the same risk category as Colombia, Peru, Honduras, Afghanistan and Lebanon.

The inability of the Aquino administration to curb the rising tide of violence also reinforces its image as weak and vacillating, an image which is sure to rub off on the government panel in the exploratory talks, undercutting whatever firm demands its members may present before the Americans.

Most important, the killings, especially the apparent ease with which the hit teams carry them out, alarm not just Americans but Filipinos, too. The string of shootings would seem to fulfill the prophecy of pro-bases advocates that chaos and mayhem shall reign over the land once the Americans pack up and go, and that the country will fall, willy-nilly, into the hands of the communists if Clark and Subic are shut down or revert to Philippine ownership.

In the end, any more killings will only turn the growing anti-bases tide of Filipino public opinion into a pro-bases landslide.

Ileto Warns of New Destabilization Ploy

HK1705073390 Manila THE MANILA BULLETIN in English 17 May 90 pp 1, 18

[By M. Rodriguez]

[Text] National Security Council (NSC) director Rafael Ileto warned yesterday against a new destabilization ploy of some groups, which ride on the US bases issue to gain the support of anti-bases advocates but are actually out to overthrow the government.

Ileto hinted after the Cabinet meeting at Malacanang that the joining of forces of various groups against the continued stay of US military facilities in the country is the most pressing factor endangering the national peace and order situation although the threat of rebel soldiers still looms.

He noted that the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has still to capture the six top rebel leaders involved in the failed coup last year.

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig Jr., acting chairman of Cabinet Cluster E, will review each of the 22 National Emergency Memorandum Orders (NEMOs) and submit to President Aquino specific recommendations on whether to extend their effectivity. The President will then consult with Congress on whether to extend and expand her emergecy powers beyong June 8.

Macaraig reported to the Cabinet that the "emergency continues and there is still a crisis," Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III said. Eight additional NEMOs are pending, six of which have been submitted by the Department of National Defense in line with a directive of President Aquino for all departments to submit their respective proposed NEMOs, he said.

Ramos said that among the orders most likely to be extended is NEMO No. 21 which provides penalties for theft of electric power transmission lines because this is a "continuing offense." He said this order should be extended especially because of the power crisis.

Gomez added that the NEMOs governing the temporary takeover of private airstrips to deter their use by rebel soldiers and the disposition of seized goods at the Bureau of Customs to raise government revenues will likely be extended.

Ramos noted the "continuous coup plotting" by some groups, including the the Rebo-lusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan [Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance]-Soldiers of the Filipino People (RAM-SFP), and the danger posed by the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army. These threats, Ramos said, are the bases of the Cabinet Cluster E on security and political matters for saying that an emergency in the country still exists.

Noting the destabilization moves during the ongoing exploratory talks, Ileto said, "Some people have created, trying to use this (bases issue) as an excuse to create some destabilization moves although their objective is really to overthrow the government. They feel that by using the bases as one of the issues...they can win the sympathy of people who are anti-bases."

Government Cites Need for Emergency Powers

HK1705045790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Malacanang has admitted that the crisis in the country continues and requests that President Aquino's emergency powers, which will terminate on 8 June, be extended. In yesterday's Cabinet meeting, the president said it will be up to the legislators to decide on the matter.

Secretary Tomas Gomez III stated that the chief executive's emergency powers should be extended because the country continues to face a crisis, particularly in the economy. At the same time, he said that the president is scheduled to meet with Congressional leaders in order to formally request the extension of the Emergency Powers Act.

Senate President Jovito Salonga said that the upper house will only take up the matter once Malacanang's request is formally served in the Senate. Senator Ernesto Maceda added that the Aquino administration should show proof that rebel soldiers are still capable of destabilizing attempts before the Senate decides on the issue. He further said that the Senate cannot assure the support which the president requests.

Estanislao Accepts Aid Program Council Post

HK1505051990 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0600 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao has accepted the president's offer to head the Philippine Assistance Program's [PAP] coordinating council. As he arrived from Washington yesterday, he said he cannot do anything but accept Mrs Aquino's offer and will try to fulfill all his duties. He will replace former PAP chief Roberto Villanueva who resigned because of health reasons.

Alliance of Military Rebel Groups Breaks Up

HK1705055790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 17 May 90 p 1

[By staffmember Manny Mogato—italicized portions as published]

[Text] The mutinous RAM (Reform the Armed Forces Movement), which led last December's failed coup attempt, has lost the Young Officers' Union (YOU) as an ally. In an interview outside Manila on Sunday with defense reporters, YOU leaders announced the break, saying they did not subscribe to RAM's "hidden political agenda."

They said they had joined the plot in December because they had "wanted to validate something." They found out, they said, that the coup attempt had no popular support and that RAM and YOU did not share the same cause.

For one thing, YOU, unlike RAM, only wants reforms, "not a power takeover," said one YOU officer who now uses the nom de guerre Capt. Emilio Natividad. *"May halong political interst 'yung exercise nila at sa tingin namin...hindi tumutugma sa magiging conclusion nuong exercise."* [Their exercise is mixed with political interest. We think it will not jibe with the conclusion of the exercise].

He said YOU wanted to pursue nationalist purposes. It is anti-imperialist and anti-communist and wants reforms in the government and in the military. It believes that "a complete overhal of the (armed forces) leadership and the creation of a nationalist army would solve the (country's) problem," Natividad said.

"Parang communist movement, merong party at united front na nag-oor-ganisa sa grass-roots level," [Like the communist movement, there is a party and a united front organizing the grass-roots level], he said, quickly adding, however, that it was not allied in any way with the communist movement. This means, he said, abandoning coup attempts as a strategy and organizing instead toward a popular revolution.

Communist Rebels Slain in Eastern Visayas Raid

HK1505113790 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 1100 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] The military today reported that at least 63 rebels of the New People's Army were killed during a military raid in Hilongos, Leyte. This was reported today by Brigadier General Vicente Garcia, Eastern Visayas area commander. Garcia said the raid was the biggest military operation on rebel camps in Leyte. He said military troopers were aided by helicopter gunships and light bomber aircraft during the raid.

Thailand

Editorial Supports Need for Copyright Laws

BK1705033790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 May 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Time for Action To Protect Copyright"]

[Text] Cigarettes and tuna may have been making the headlines in recent months, but few issues belabour relations between Thailand and other countries, particularly the United States, more than that of "intellectual property." This phrase covers a wide range of items, but none is more noticeable or emotional than copyright and it is past time for Thailand to move on this matter. That is why it was somewhat heartening to hear Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan say that he intends to raise the matter with President George Bush when the two leaders meet in Washington next month.

The prime minister's request for time before granting foreigners the same protection as residents of Thailand is unlikely to be accepted off the bat by Washington. But Gen [General] Chatchai's plan to ask for a five-year breather is not unrealistic. In fact, and even taking into account the abortive efforts of the previous administration, it marks the first time in solid diplomatic terms that a Thai government is truly facing up to the international responsibility of intertwined issues such as copyright, patents and trademarks.

Thailand lags in these areas, as any number of visiting dignitaries point out with almost monotonous regularity. Therefore, a commitment by the Government such as that planned by Gen Chatchai should be viewed as a positive step forward.

There are specific problems with parts of any sweeping proposal to bring Thailand into full concert with the developed world on the general theme of intellectual property. But copyright is a matter on which the issue is clear. Sales of pirated music and movie cassettes, computer software and general-interest books do little to enhance the Thai quality of life. Musicians playing melodies traceable directly to foreign artists do little to enhance Thai culture.

In fact, inadequate international copyright protection stifles Thai creativity in the popular arts and commercial markets such as development of computer software.

One of the better known computer products, in fact, was invented and marketed by a Thai who was forced to stay in America because of the lack of protection for his invention at home. This is even more ironical because the product, the "Hercules card" was invented specifically to display the Thai language on today's home computers.

Passage and enforcement of an effective copyright law is overdue. There are ample justifications for this. The notion of a book, song or film that is written in Thailand and is copyrighted throughout the world, whereas one that is written outside Thailand can be freely exploited here with little regard to the author, simply does not hold water.

Gen Chatchai deserves support for raising the issue on his own, and for presenting the opening argument. He should direct his senior officials to draft a reasonable law that would bring the country into line with most of the rest of the world on this important and emotional issue.

Indeed, it has become evident in recent years that failure to do this will present Thailand with more problems in its foreign relations. No reasonable person expects absolute adherence to a copyright law overnight. But a pledge to enact a copyright law and provide enforcement would remove one of the touchier international issues faced by this country.

Chawalit To Form Team for Combatting Khun Sa

BK1605040990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 May 90 p 1

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved Deputy Prime Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut's proposal to set up a high-level government team to cope with the narcotics and security threat caused by opium warlord Khun Sa's army and his rival Wa rebels.

Deputy Government Spokesman Phonthep Techapaibun said Gen [General] Chawalit had sought the formation of the committee in a bid to prevent the two forces from becoming a national threat and aggravating the narcotics problem. Gen Chawalit, who is also Defence Minister, informed the meeting that he had found during his recent visit to Chiang Mai that both Khun Sa's Muang Tai Army and his Wa rival rebel group had built up sophisticated arms and reinforced their bases on the Thai border.

The forces could become a threat to national stability, causing the narcotics problem to worsen if no action was taken. Members of the two forces have continued to cross back and forth across the Thai-Burmese border and provide drugs for sale.

Mr Phonthep said the Prime Minister had also voiced his concern over the situation during the meeting. Government sources said the Prime Minister had clarified that any upcoming get-tough policy against these Burmese rebel groups would not be used by the Government to bargain with the United States when he visits that country next month.

Gen Chawalit earlier this month made a quiet visit to Chiang Mai to meet US President George Bush's adviser, Gen Alexander Haig, and senior officials of the US Drug Enforcement Agency at the US consulate.

Sitthi Views Sihanouk Stance, Chances for Talks

BK1705062190 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Speaking to journalists at parliament building this morning about the meeting on Cambodia in Japan, Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila said Prince Sihanouk did not appear to have completely shut the door on the Cambodian problem because he said he might go to Japan if Hun Sen sends him a formal invitation.

Asked whether the Tokyo meeting will ever take place, Sitthi said preparations have been continuing but he could not reveal the outcome of the several rounds of informal talks which had already taken place.

Commentary on Sihanouk's Reconstruction Proposal

BK1705100190 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 16 May 90

["Cambodian Diary Program": "Prince Sihanouk's New Role in Cambodian Conflict"]

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the United Nations recognized National Government of Cambodia, or NGC, on 8 May announced his new role to solve the 11-year-old conflict in Cambodia. The prince's new proposal came out only one day after his long leave of absence from politics to help his war weary Khmer people. The prince announced on that day that he will begin to contact several governments of rich countries which desire to extend social, cultural, and humanitarian help to his Khmer people. He would also form a small team of Cambodians to help him seek aid from overseas, but he stressed that responsibility for distributing the aid would be left with the donor countries. The prince mentioned that his team and himself will only request that the donors [as heard] and the authorities in each zones inside Cambodia extend them permission to accompany representatives of donor countries to assist and work with them, with local people, and with local or government authorities. The foreign aid for Cambodia could include public health, education, agriculture, water supply, small rural industries, and restoration of Cambodia's greatest landmark—the Angkor Temple complex.

In his other message on 13 May, the prince called on the leaders of another faction in the NGC to help him form the humanitarian mission to parts of Cambodia under its control. The prince also said that he was determined to go in person to serve the inhabitants of poor villages in the liberated zones beginning with the area along the border with Thailand. And the latest movement is that the prince will go to Japan in June to discuss Japanese aid to his country.

Prince Sihanouk's new role after his leave announcement shows good sign that the respected figure of the Khmer will devote his full time to reconstruct the war-torn Cambodia and to rebuild the Khmer heritage that has been lost during the war years. Unfortunately, the prince's announcement has been rejected immediately by Hun Sen, leader of the Vietnamese backed regime in Phnom Penh, by saying that the prince will be permitted to travel into the regime's controlled territory only on two conditions. Firstly, the prince has to dissociate himself indefinitely from Khieu Samphan's faction, which is a part of the UN recognized government of Cambodia, or NGC. Secondly, the prince has to send a request to his regime officially. The rejection received immediate reaction from the prince that Hun Sen's action is unnationalistic and intended to protect him from Khmer people for fear that it would lead to the people expressing their faithful love for the prince.

Cambodia's scars of war from fightings between the nationalist fighters of the NGC and the Vietnamese

occupation forces and the Hun Sen soldiers need to be cleared immediately. The prince's intention to spend all his time for the reconstruction of Cambodia and the need for the reconciliation between all the Cambodians are the most important thing. Hun Sen's reaction for the prince's proposal can be viewed as selfish and improper manner toward the devoted person who wants Cambodia to be back on the road of prosperity. The rejection can only be viewed by Western countries and the world community that Hun Sen wants to covert the corruption by his relatives and his government and to cover the failure of his administration to protect Cambodia's interest and sovereignty that he and his regime abdicated to Vietnam during the past 11 years.

The prince's new role can also be praised not only on humanitarian grounds but also for the supplementation for the UN efforts to solve this conflict. Since the United Nations will still be the most important international body to take care of the relief operations for Cambodians along the Thai-Cambodian border, the obstruction by Hun Sen will not only block international effort to solve the conflict but is also against humanitarian efforts to help the Khmer people in Hun Sen's controlled area. We hope that the prince's humanitarian proposal will not be left out by only the narrow-mindedness of Hun Sen and his regime.

Compromise Urged at Sihanouk-Hun Sen Talks

BK1705130590 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 16 May 90

["Article": "Sihanouk-Hun Sen Meeting in Tokyo, Another Chance for a Peace Settlement"]

[Text] On 26 September 1989 Vietnam unilaterally declared the complete withdrawal of all its troops from Cambodia. However, whether or not Vietnam has really withdrawn all its troops remains in question because the withdrawal was made without international supervision. Meanwhile, there have been frequent reports that Vietnamese soldiers are mingling with troops of the Heng Samrin regime fighting against the resistance forces. There are also reports that many of them have settled in Cambodia.

In mid-April, Claude Cheysson, representative of the European Parliament, led a team to Cambodia for an informal verification of the situation. He said it was possible that Vietnam had sent its troops back into Cambodia to reinforce the Heng Samrin forces, enabling the latter to retake several areas in Battambang from the Khmer forces.

Richard Solomon, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Asia and Pacific affairs, on 14 May held a news conference in Bangkok on the results of his visit to Thailand. He said that, despite constant claims by the Vietnamese Government since last September that there is not a single Vietnamese soldier left in Cambodia, reports from East Europe and other news agencies suggest that Vietnamese troops have returned to Cambodia to back up military operations by the Heng Samrin regime. Although there is no clear indication of the number of Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodia, it is believed they number in the thousands. The presence of Vietnamese regular forces in Cambodia shows that the Heng Samrin regime is not strong enough and still has to depend on help from Vietnam.

It is generally accepted that the solution to the Cambodian problem must be in the form of a comprehensive political settlement. International conferences in the past—in Paris and Jakarta—have failed because Vietnam and the Heng Samrin Regime insisted upon blocking the Khmer Rouge from having a role in the national reconciliation council or the supreme national council. They also rejected the role of international organizations in verifying the Vietnamese troop pullout and the question of Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia. The position adopted by Vietnam and Heng Samrin provoked a general suspicion that the Vietnam-Heng Samrin regime is insincere in efforts to achieve a political settlement to the Cambodian problem based on the proposals put forward by the international community with the hope of getting all Cambodian factions to agree on the question of power sharing.

Thai Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan has been making efforts to bring genuine peace to Cambodia. He proposed a meeting between Prince Sihanouk and Hun Sen in Tokyo in the first week of June. This was accepted by Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu who agreed to host the meeting. Japan's move reflects its readiness to play a role in the peace settlement in Indochina. Prince Sihanouk stated earlier that the meeting in Tokyo might not pave the way for peace. He said that the leader of the Heng Samrin regime has not changed from his previous stand, although he made it clear that he would attend the Tokyo meeting. Therefore, we are waiting for the results of the meeting in Tokyo. Will Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Heng Samrin regime installed by Vietnam adopt a more flexible attitude in the talks? Prince Sihanouk has already made concessions by announcing his 9-point proposal to solve the Cambodian problem. Some of the points in the proposal are similar to those once raised by the Hun Sen side. It should soon be possible to ascertain which side in the Cambodian dispute is ready to compromise, and which is sincere about solving the problem in Cambodia so that peace can be restored to Cambodia and security and stability to Southeast Asia.

Cabinet Approves Establishment of New Ministry

BK1605044990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 May 90 p 30

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved in principle the establishment of a Communications and Civil Aviation Ministry. The proposal was put forward by the Transport and Communications Ministry.

Nine agencies and 11 state enterprises now come under the Transport and Communications Ministry covering land, sea and air transport, telecommunications and meteorology.

The national economy has grown rapidly in recent years, as has the ministry's reponsibility. Technology in all areas has also grown very quickly and the ministry alone has been unable to cope with these changes. To make the supervision of its various activities more efficient to effectively benefit the country's economy, society and security, the ministry suggested the establishment of a new ministry to take over some of its activities.

The proposal recommended that land and water transport and the nation's merchant marine fleet remain under the Transport and Communications Ministry's jurisdiction, while aviation, telecommunications and meteorology should become the responsibility of the new ministry.

It also proposed the establishment of a Radio Frequency Administration Office to administer radio frequencies.

Vietnam

U.S. Businessman Reports Hanoi's Concern

BK1705101090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0959 GMT 17 May 90

[Excerpts] Bangkok, May 17 (AFP)—A U.S. businessman just released from detention in Vietnam said Thursday [17 May] his Ho Chi Minh City police interrogators were convinced that the United States was attempting to overthrow Hanoi's communist government. Michael Morrow told a press conference that security (police) officials at the detention center where he was held for three weeks in the former South Vietnamese capital of Saigon expressed concern over perceived "attempts to organise mass movements in Saigon," along the lines of the pro-democracy movement last year in China. "They kept coming back again to Tiananmen," Mr. Morrow, a Hong Kong-based business consultant and publisher who speaks fluent Vietnamese, said in a reference to Beijing's Tiananmen Square where the Chinese Army brutally crushed the pro-democracy movement in June last year.

Mr. Morrow, a former news correspondent with extensive experience in Indochina during the Vietnam war, said people arrested recently in Ho Chi Minh City included prominent members of the city's communist party. The businessman, who was arrested in the central coastal city of Danang on April 23 along with a French colleague and a Vietnamese friend, said he was told by his interrogators the U.S. Government had no intention of lifting the trade embargo against Vietnam under President George Bush's administration. "And in the meantime (the U.S. Government) was embarked on a sophisticated political and military strategy aimed at toppling the Vietnamese Government," Mr. Morrow said he was told. [passage omitted]

He said security officials at his detention center expressed "great preoccupation...with attempts to destabilise the government" during a period that had started April 30 and running until May 19. April 30 marked the 15th anniversary of the victory of Hanoi's communist forces over the U.S.-backed government of South Vietnam. On May 19, Vietnam is to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Ho Chi Minh, the country's independence hero.

Mr. Morrow said his interrogators also spoke with concern of the changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, claiming that the United States was taking advantage of them. "These changes have caused political instability in Vietnam among some of our intellectuals," he quoted one as saying.

Further NHAN DAN Views on Solomon Remarks

BK1605132690 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] The Vietnamese national daily NHAN DAN on Wednesday [16 May] runs a commentary on Washington's hostile policy against Vietnam. Under the title "Negative Statement of Mr. Solomon," the paper says that on 14 May U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Solomon told newsmen in Bangkok that Vietnamese military forces still took part in military operations in Cambodia. Earlier, on 11 May in another statement, Mr. Solomon called on all countries to restrain their contacts with Vietnam until the conflict in Cambodia is settled. The paper describes these statements of Mr. Solomon as untrue and impractical.

The paper emphasizes that Vietnam's complete withdrawal from Cambodia on 26 September last year has won broad welcome, recognition, and appreciation from the world public. Until now, many foreign delegations to Cambodia have confirmed the non-presence of Vietnamese troops there. At a recent press conference in Paris, representatives of the Socialist, Liberal, and Christian Democratic groups in the European Parliament, returning from a visit to Cambodia, said that they had not seen Vietnam's military presence wherever they went in Cambodia. The paper said the complete Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia has created favorable conditions to solve the key issues, namely to prevent the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime and achieve a correct and fair solution to the Cambodian issue.

Although the U.S. Congress has issued a resolution on preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime, Washington still sticks to its outdated viewpoint and does not do anything to promote a solution to the Cambodian issue. It still shows a hostile attitude toward Vietnam and stands by the side of the Khmer Rouge against the rebirth of the Cambodian people. This attitude by Washington has been criticized by public opinion in the United States.

THE NEW YORK TIMES on 7 May noted that the U.S. President spoke in favor of peace between the Phnom Penh government and opposition groups that, in fact, kept on supporting and assisting the Khmer Rouge, while encouraging other sources of arms supply to the opposition groups. Another paper, THE WASHINGTON POST, on the same day said that the U.S. Administration still adopts a double-faced attitude toward Cambodia. This is because, the newspaper says, the United States wants to play the murderous Khmer Rouge against Vietnam. Fifteen years after the debacle in Vietnam, the United States does not want to recognize that country in a new light, the POST story concluded.

NHAN DAN went on by saying that the statement made by Mr. Solomon is to smokescreen Washington's de facto support for the genocidal Khmer Rouge and justify erroneous U.S. policy on Cambodia. NHAN DAN blames Mr. Solomon for using Cambodia as a pretext to prevent other countries from doing business with Vietnam. This, the paper says, runs counter to the current trend for normalizing relations among nations. It also sheds more light on Washington's ill intention to continue isolating Vietnam. NHAN DAN reports that Vietnamese leaders have time and again declared their readiness to normalize relations with the United States. Vietnam wishes that the U.S. side will take both a new look and new actions conforming to reason and realities, and become sincere in seeking a fair and reasonable solution to Cambodia, as well as accelerating the process of normalizing relations between the United States and Vietnam.

IZVESTIYA Interviews Nguyen Van Linh

BK1605130690 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 May 90 p 5

[Interview in Hanoi with Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, by IZVESTIYA correspondent B. Vinogradov: "Course of Renewal and Social Stability. Nguyen Van Linh, General Secretary of Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, Answers IZVESTIYA's Questions"—date not given]

[Text] [Vinogradov] Dear Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, we have just celebrated the 60th founding anniversary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]. How do you assess the path already traversed by the party and people of Vietnam, and what tasks face the CPV in the future?

[Nguyen Van Linh] For a more complete answer to this question, you may want to read the speech I delivered at the ceremony marking the 60th founding anniversary of the party (published in the 3 February 1990 issue of NHAN DAN). Here I will only stress the following points:

The past 60 years of our party and people have mainly been years of revolution and struggle for freedom, independence, and reunification of the country. The party and people of Vietnam have successfully fulfilled that historic mission. From now on, our primary task is to build a prosperous and powerful socialist Vietnam where the people lead a plentiful, free, and happy life.

Now, on the approach to the year 2000, we intend to continue the course of renewing society and ensuring further socioeconomic stabilization. We want to use these years to accumulate material wealth—as the prerequisite for our development in the future. Those are our plans in general terms. They will be further described in the new CPV program, which we are currently drawing up. It will be submitted for ratification by the seventh congress.

[Vinogradov] Talking about the party's role in the new stage of socialist construction, how do you view the development of the democratization process? What is the idea of renewing the party itself?

[Nguyen Van Linh] Following the sixth congress, the CPV undertook leadership of all the processes of renewing and democratizing social life. However, we cannot count on the success of renewal if we divide the development of democracy into two independent spheres, the party and society as a whole. I think democratization should be conducted in all spheres simultaneously and with equal vigor to ensure the conditions for political and social stability, as well as for the implementation of economic reform. Important positive results have been achieved in this area in the three years since the sixth congress. I'm talking about intraparty democracy and the activity of state and social organizations. We believe democracy is the aim and motive force of socialism and an effective means of renewing the party itself. It is designed to ensure that the rights of citizens to participate in running the country are observed in line with the slogan: "Let the people know, discuss, act, and supervise." Democracy should be controllable; it should be developed in the interests of socialism without permitting anarchy or social chaos. We openly state that democracy should serve the majority of working people. At the same time, the dictatorship policy with regard to the reactionary minority, which has still not given up its attempts to destroy the socialist system and oppose the people through diverse forms and maneuvers, should be continued.

The Vietnamese people, on the basis of their historical experience—for which we paid a high price—recognize the CPV as their sole leading force and reject political pluralism along with the multiparty system. They reject the possibility of opposition trends and parties existing in our society. At the same time, our people demand that the CPV review its obsolete views and come more into line with the modern demands of revolution. The party honestly admits its guilt for the mistakes that have been made and is actively working to correct them. It supports in every possible way criticism from below and freedom of expression, which are the guarantee that the tasks facing it will be successfully fulfilled.

The party takes account of and respects the various opinions that have emerged in the course of debates and discussions in the search for truth. After a choice has been made, the principle of democratic centralism—where the minority gives way to the majority—comes into force. Provisions are made for minority opinion; it is submitted for discussion in cases where this is necessary.

[Vinogradov] What is your opinion of the processes currently taking place in the East European countries? Will they affect Vietnam's relations with those countries?

[Nguyen Van Linh] The CPV and the Vietnamese people are following events in East Europe with great attention. We regret to note that in certain countries communist parties are losing power while opposition forces are gradually moving toward the restoration of capitalism, only concealing this behind other slogans.

We are all well aware that the socialist ideal allowed those countries' peoples to achieve definite successes in their development and to come through major trials in the past. One has to admit that East Europe is now experiencing hard times. There is no doubt, however, that socialism will continue to inspire peoples and genuine communists to struggle against the factors that have distorted its essence and oppose the trends of deviating from the socialist path. Capitalism is not the final solution to human civilization. Sooner or later, the peoples of those countries will be disillusioned by harsh realities. The events in East Europe have raised many theoretical and practical questions which require careful study. Our party and people must draw the relevant conclusions from this in support of our own party building and national construction efforts.

[Vinogradov] As a member of CEMA, Vietnam has been contributing to the development of cooperation among the socialist countries. At the recent CEMA session in Sofia, Vietnam supported the idea of switching to hard currency in reciprocal settlements. What are the prospects for CEMA's activity in that respect, and what place, in your opinion, will Vietnam occupy in the future system of economic integration?

[Nguyen Van Linh] While remaining a CEMA member, Vietnam is making its contribution to that organization's activity, and is developing bilateral and multilateral cooperation under suitable forms and on the basis of mutual advantage. Vietnam supports the idea of changing CEMA's mechanism, structure, and operation in order to make its activities more realistic, effective, and resposive to the requirements for economic, scientific, and technological development of each member country. A changed CEMA will have more capabilities and conditions for developing its role in the current economic situation. We are prepared to actively participate in the process of setting up a new CEMA mechanism, to stimulate direct ties between individual sectors, and to expand modern forms of cooperation. We advocate a gradual transition to world prices and the use of hard currency in mutual settlements and commodity exchange.

[Vinogradov] Over the past two years, we have all witnessed the stabilization of the Vietnamese economy and the successful implementation of economic reform. What is the "secret" of your success?

[Nguyen Van Linh] Over the past three years Vietnam has been implementing economic reform in a comprehensive and systematic manner. On the economic structure and investment policy, we have focused our efforts on three priority areas—food production, consumer goods production, and exports. The foundations are being laid for a power industry and an infrastructure. As for economic structures, it is planned to further strengthen the state and cooperative sectors while simultaneously developing other types of ownership, including private ownership. The policy of attracting the financial resources of individual citizens and cooperatives into industry, agriculture, and trade is having a tangible effect. The capital thereby brought into play has made it possible to markedly increase output of various products for both the domestic market and export; hundreds of thousands of extra jobs have been created. Virtually all national economic structures have been placed on a footing of economic accountability, self-financing, and single prices.

We have introduced realistic exchange rates for foreign currency, legalized and expanded foreign exchange and gold trading, and set up a network of commercial banks where the level of interest paid compensates investors for any loss due to inflation. In the past year alone a huge sum of money—1.3 trillion "surplus" dong—has been removed from circulation and "tied into" the banking system and savings banks. In short, we are applying a market mechanism with the socialist state playing a macro-management role. The first steps have been taken in renewing foreign policy activity. We are providing incentives for foreign capital, not least from the Soviet Union, to invest in the country. State planning and management of the economy is now conducted at the macro level—that is, without interference in enterprises' trading and production activities. A large number of intermediate components that acted as middlemen have been cut. All this, I repeat, represents just the first few steps, but these steps are very important. They are of decisive significance for our economy.

[Vinogradov] The new law on foreign investment was passed two years ago. What has been achieved since, and how do you assess Vietnam's level of cooperation with capitalist countries?

[Nguyen Van Linh] Back in December 1987, the SRV National Assembly adopted a law on foreign investment. Since then 105 agreements have been signed at the state level with various foreign countries. These represent a

total sum of $850 million. Vietnam is consistently following a policy of expanding cooperation with the Soviet Union. At the same time, we are organizing links with other states on the basis of the principles of mutual advantage.

[Vinogradov] There is a great deal of argument and discussion in the Soviet Union at present about private ownership—private ownership of land and means of production. Vietnam's experience in this respect is interesting for us. Could you please tell us what your attitude is to the existence of private ownership in a socialist state? How is this matter being resolved in Vietnam? Can a party member own a private enterprise? If he can, how should the concept of "exploitation of man by man" be understood?

[Nguyen Van Linh] The problem of ownership should be viewed within the framework of Vietnam's nationwide economy, which has bypassed the stage of capitalist development and is at the first stage of the period of transition to socialism. Currently the state sector produces 30 percent of national income, the cooperative sector produces 50 percent, and the private sector is considered an objective reality and functions under state supervision. Private enterprise in Vietnam differs substantially from that in capitalist countries. It is allowed to develop within certain limits in accordance with socialist trends and under state management to help boost production and services and generate more employment for society. In the future we will adopt another set of laws guaranteeing the private sector's long-term existence—that is, as long as it proves its viability and is of benefit to society. The socialist state has firm control of the commanding heights and what are called the "nerve centers" of the national economy.

The CPV Statutes state that only people who do not exploit the labor of others can be party members.

[Vinogradov] How do you assess the new law on the press adopted at the SRV National Assembly session in December, with reference to the abolition of censorship on the one hand and the ban on owning private publications on the other hand. Has the principle of the party nature of the press as the leading principle of the Vietnamese journalists' work been preserved? Is there a certain limit to openness?

[Nguyen Van Linh] We regard the new press law as another step forward in the process to improve the legal basis of the state. The law guarantees SRV citizens freedom of expression and freedom of the press. It also enhances the role of the press in building socialism and defending the motherland in accordance with the course of renewal elaborated by the party.

Under the law the citizens of our country have the right to obtain information about all aspects of life both inside the country and abroad. They can also furnish information to the press without supervision from any side. They can express their opinion on any question, contributing to the formation of party lines and policies and the state law or criticizing, complaining about, and denouncing in the press the activities of and organization of the state agency or its members. The mass media have freedom of expression, but this must be subjected to leadership. The only restriction that applies to the mass media is that they must not reveal those things whose publication is forbidden by law.

These stipulations are fairly sufficient for the broad realization of openness and the freedom of the press. In the conditions of our country there is no need at present to have private publications and therefore, in my opinion, this does not constitute a restriction on freedom of expression or freedom of the press. Especially under the law, all the mass media belong either to party, state, or public organizations and at the same time are a public platform. Anyone may use this platform to freely express his opinion.

[Vinogradov] Considering the current changes in East Europe and the ongoing process in other continents, in what direction, in your opinion, is the world changing? How do you assess recent events? Would they influence the search for a solution to the Cambodian problem? What should we do, in your view, to ensure a prompt settlement of thes problem in the future?

[Nguyen Van Linh] I have already assessed the changes in East Europe in my answer to Question No. 3.

Vietnam favors a quest for a political solution to the Cambodian problem and the establishment of guarantees to forestall a restoration of the "Khmer Rouge" regime. We respect the Cambodian people's right to self-determination and their desire to hold free general elections under UN supervision and embark on building an independent, democratic, and neutral Cambodia. Vietnam has withdrawn all its volunteer troops from Cambodia. Together with the international community, it is contributing its share to the achievement of a fair and reasonable settlement of the problem on the basis of respect for the sovereignty and independence of this state.

[Vinogradov] One last question. How do you assess the current state of relations between Vietnam and the Soviet Union? What should be done to enhance the effectiveness of our cooperation?

[Nguyen Van Linh] Vietnam and the Soviet Union are making great efforts to further develop and renew all-around cooperation. Certain achievements in this respect already exist. At the talks with M.S. Gorbachev in May 1987 and at subsequent meetings we have agreed to work toward the expansion and improvement of mutually advantageous ties between our countries and to facilitate the establishment of direct contacts between sectors and organizations.

Our governments are currently elaborating the main spheres of these activities. Measures are being taken to eliminate existing difficulties. I am convinced that all-around collaboration between our parties, governments,

and peoples will continue to strengthen for our common good. The Vietnamese people and the CPV highly appreciate the enormous and effective assistance of the Soviet Union to the building and the defense of our fatherland. They express their gratitude.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to send fraternal greetings and best wishes to the CPSU, the government, and the entire Soviet people via IZVESTIYA. I hope the Soviet people may swiftly resolve the temporary problems which have arisen and firmly steer the course of building a great socialist power, the bulwark of world revolution.

'High-Level' Lao, Cambodian Delegations Arrive

BK1605155690 Hanoi VNA in English 1522 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 16—High-level party and state delegations of Laos and Cambodia arrived here today for the celebration of President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary at the invitation of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee and the State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The Lao delegation is led by Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; and the Cambodian delegation by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and president of the State of Cambodia.

The Lao and Cambodian guests were welcomed at the government guest house here by Do Muoi, Politburo member of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and other Vietnamese senior officials.

Laos' Kaysone Phomvihan Praises Ho Chi Minh

BK1505102990 Hanoi VNA in English 0715 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 15—"President Ho Chi Minh's experiences in party building and education of party members are extremely precious to the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]", said Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee, in a recent interview granted to our correspondent in Vientiane on the occasion of Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary (May 19).

Commenting on the late Vietnamese president's revolutionary cause, Kaysone Phomvihan said:

"President Ho Chi Minh had made untold great services to the Indochinese nations, in which what is the most decisive is that he was the first to introduce Marxism-Leninism in Indochina and apply it to the three nations' struggle for national salvation, and founded the Indochinese Communist Party, predecessor of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea".

The Lao party leader continued:

"He always paid great importance to promoting patriotism, leading the [words indistinct] consciousness to class awareness and (?from) genuine patriotism to Marxism-Leninism...

"He attached special attention to the human factor, regarding it as the most decisive one, and was devoted whole-heartedly to fostering his successors and the future revolutionary generations. After the Indochinese Communist Party trifurcated into three national parties, he advised the Lao party to take the name of Lao People's Party (now the Lao People's Revolutionary Party) in order to rally all Lao patriots conscious of the ideal of the whole nation in the struggle for national salvation. That is the creative application of Marxism-Leninism to the practical situation in Laos".

Recollecting his meetings with Ho Chi Minh, Kaysone Phomvihan said:

"The first revolutionary lessons Ho Chi Minh imparted to me when I was seeking the way of national salvation for the Lao people of all ethnic groups, such as the necessity to base ourselves on the people, to win the confidence of the people, to care for the people, to take to the grassroots, to build the resistance bases, to pay attention to building the armed forces and other revolutionary organizations, and to training and fostering revolutionary cadres especially local and grassroots cadres, were extremely precious to me. I regard those lessons as the guiding ideologies prevailing upon me throughout the revolutionary struggle and helping me mature".

Papua New Guinea

Bougainville Separatists Declare Independence

Declaration Circulated to Embassies

BK1705052490 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Separatists on the Papua New Guinea island of Bougainville have issued a statement declaring the island independent from today. Radio Australia's Port Moresby office says the declaration was circulated to embassies in the capital and other South Pacific nations before the Papua New Guinea Government severed the province's communications.

In the statement, the self-proclaimed president of Bougainville, Mr. Francis Ona, accused Papua New Guinea of having declared and fought a war against the island last year, resulting in the withdrawal of all national government authority from the island.

Port Moresby has reacted by cutting telephone communications and reiterating its refusal to allow Bougainville to secede.

The island remains largely isolated from the rest of the region, with shipping, postal, and banking services closed.

Government's Key Leaders Overseas

BK1705045590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0411 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Port Moresby, May 17 (AFP)—Militants on Papua New Guinea's copper-rich Bougainville Island were reportedly set to declare independence Thursday [17 May] after a 16-month secessionist war.

THE TIMES of Papua New Guinea reported that rebel leader Francis Ona was to become president of the new Republic of Meekamui while Sam Kauona, head of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA), would be defence minister.

The ceremony was reportedly scheduled for Thursday morning, but it was impossible to confirm whether it actually occurred as all telephone services to the island were cut.

A statement Wednesday night by acting Premier Ted Diro said Port Moresby would not recognise any unilateral declaration of independence. "Any such declaration would be a clear indication of a lack of sincerity and seriousness on the part of the militants, and leaders who are supporting them in the province, to take part in planned negotiations with the national government," he said.

Thursday's declaration of independence, if confirmed, will have come at a time when three key Papua New Guinea leaders are overseas. Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu and Foreign Minister Michael Somare are in Singapore, meeting with World Bank officials to seek more money to bolster the country's economy. Justice Minister Bernard Narakobi is in New Zealand, attending a seminar on disarmament and arms control. Mr. Somare and Mr. Narakobi were appointed negotiators for proposed peace talks between Port Moresby and the BRA, which have been deferred due to disagreements over the venue of the talks.

Port Moresby last week imposed restrictions on supplies and communications with Bougainville, effectively cutting off the island from the outside world, including the rest of Papua New Guinea. All flights and coastal shipping need special authority from the national government need special permission to go to Bougainville, which is reported to be short of food, fuel and medicine.

The BRA has been in control of Bougainville since March, when all government troops withdrew following a conflict that has claimed more than 80 lives since it erupted in November 1988. The clash was triggered by local landowners' demands for massive compensation from the Australian-run Bougainville Copper Mine for use of their property. The mine, which provided about one-sixth of government revenues and more than 40 per cent of export earnings for Papua New Guinea, has been closed since May 1989.

(In Canberra, a spokesman for Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said Australia did not acknowledge the declaration of independence. The spokesman said the legitimate governing authorities of the island were Papua New Guinea, which was administered by Australia until 1975, and the provincial government.

(In Wellington, Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer said the "independent republic of Bougainville" had sought New Zealand's recognition, but that his government fully supported Papua New Guinea to negotiate a solution to the crisis. He said the letter, sent to the New Zealand High Commission in Port Moresby, had been signed by Francis Ona, who described himself as the Interim President of the Republic.

("New Zealand's position is that Bougainville is recognised constitutionally at present as part of the independent state of Papua New Guinea," Mr. Palmer said. "A unilateral declaration of independence by Bougainville does not change that.")

Government Rejects Declaration

BK1705082490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0757 GMT 17 May 90

[By Wally Hiambohn]

[Text] Port Moresby, May 17 (AFP)—Militants on copper-rich Bougainville Island declared their independence from Papua New Guinea Thursday [17 May], but the government here immediately rejected the move.

Officials here also pressed preparations to blockade Bougainville, where phones were cut earlier Thursday

and air, shipping and postal services had already been suspended. But they said no plans had been made to send troops to the island controlled by the rebels unopposed since March.

The Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) proclaimed the republic to cap a secessionist war launched in November 1988 which claimed more than 80 lives on the rugged, jungle-clad island. Rebel leader Francis Ona, who spearheaded the fight initially aimed at winning massive compensation from the Australian-run Bougainville Copper Mine, named himself interim president. Nine other people were appointed to cabinet positions including BRA commander Sam Kauona who took on the duties of defence minister.

A 10-point declaration, delivered to selected diplomatic missions, said the republic of Bougainville was founded Thursday to promote "the welfare and happiness of her people in a more just and equal society." But the Government of Papua New Guinea, which itself became independent from Australian administration in 1975, dismissed the Bougainville move as unconstitutional.

Two months after withdrawing all security troops from Bougainville, Port Moresby prepared to blockade the island in a bid to isolate the militants who touched off the bloodiest South Pacific conflict since World War II.

A statement by acting Prime Minister Ted Diro called the rebels "a minority of cultists who are trying to create hardship for the majority of Bougainvilleans who want to remain part of Papua New Guinea." It also urged neighbouring and friendly countries to withhold recognition of the militants. Australia and New Zealand quickly announced their rejection of the independence declaration.

The prime minister's office said that Papua New Guinea defence force troops would be called out Monday to enforce the blockade of Bougainville. The government announced last week it would bar ships and aircraft from going within 12 miles of Bougainville other than for approved deliveries of medical supplies and fuel for the local hospital. Bougainville, which has a population of 200,000 people, is reported to be short of food, fuel and medicine.

A senior official, who asked not to be named, said the troops called out would help police and surveillance units watch over the restricted zone. But he said no decision had been made whether to send troops into Bougainville, echoing Mr. Diro's remarks last week that there would be no military attack on the island just yet.

Best estimates of the strength of the BRA run to 2,000 to 3,000 members, although precise figures are impossible since they are spread out over the Bougainville bush. Various sources have put the number of BRA supporters on Bougainville at around 20,000. At the height of the conflict, Port Moresby sent 800 troops to Bougainville to back up the 800 police—all since pulled out.

The conflict has hit Papua New Guinea's economy hard since it closed down the copper mine last May. The mine provided about a sixth of government revenues and more than 40 percent of export earnings.

The government has refused to give into the secession demand but has tried to start up talks with the rebels in a neutral site, such as the Solomon Islands capital Honiara.

Mr. Diro said late Wednesday the declaration of independence was "a clear indication of a lack of sincerity and seriousness" on the part of the militants to take part in the negotiations. The declaration was also made while Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu and Foreign Minister Michael Somare were in Singapore meeting with World Bank officials to seek funds to bolster their country's economy. Father John Momis, a member of parliament for Bougainville, provincial affairs minister and the government's peace talks coordinator, called the move a tactical error by the militants. "The pointless exercise of claiming unilateral independence will now show just how isolated the BRA leadership is," he said.

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